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WORLD SOCCER

How DENMARK shocked Europe

All set for **Barcelona**

EURO '92

Full reports, line-ups, and goalscorers

DENMARK V GERMANY

Left . . . spot the ball as Jensen smashes in the first goal.

Below right . . . spot the scorer Jensen almost buried beneath a crowd of delighted Danes.

Danes put new life into Europe

Astonishing outsiders dynamite Germany — and all the experts

ROCKETS crashed and thundered up out of the Ullevi stadium and into the twilight zone as Denmark celebrated a unique victory over Germany's world champions.

But the greater explosion already had been detonated. Euro '92 will not be remembered as a classical feast of football technique, but it will never be forgotten. That is all to the credit NOT of the flawed giants of Germany and Holland or the self-deluding also-rans from France and England . . . but to the nation which, within four weeks, gave Europe a jolt in both political and sporting terms. Denmark's victory was the most unpredictable in the modern game. But, as German manager Berti Vogts quickly admitted after his men's 2-0 defeat here, they earned it and deserved it.

The shock administered to European football lies not merely in their late appearance as substitutes for strife-torn, sanctions-busted Yugoslavia. Everyone thought Denmark's best days were in the recent past: the team of the mid-1980s, with Michael Laudrup (how he must be kicking himself now!), Preben Elkjaer, Morten Olsen, Frank Arnesen, Soren Lerby and the rest.

That was when Danish Dynamite was seen and heard as far as the semi-finals of the 1984 European Championship and the second round of the 1986 World Cup. After the defeat by Spain in a penalty shoot-out in the Euro '84 semi-finals, skipper Morten Olsen shrugged and said: "Luck evens itself out in the long term."

That "long term" proved to be eight years. Then along came Holland, back in the European semi-finals, back to the shoot-out. This time, of course, Denmark won.

Morten Olsen's successor as skipper and sweeper, Lars Olsen, duly went on to raise the Henri Delaunay Trophy on a Swedish summer evening which had been hot enough without all the temperature-extending drama. Denmark were, as Vogts and Holland boss Rinus Michels both pointed out, carried on to ever higher peaks by a surging tide of emotion.

When Flemming Povlsen was running up dead-ends and goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel was dropping crosses all over the place in the first matches they never suggested ambition beyond simple respectability.

But, as Euro '92 stumbled to life once the first two stultifying rounds were out of the way, so Denmark lit their fuse.

They were bottom of Group One when they began their third match, against France. By the end of the game goals from Henrik Larsen and Lars Elstrup had lifted them into the semi-finals.

Looking back, that goal by substitute Elstrup assumes ever greater importance. A suspicion of offside lurked around the build-up. But every successful team needs a little luck now and then.

This victory will never be forgotten

A little luck and a lot of hard work. And nobody could deny the work Denmark put in — which was remarkable, considering the fact that players had been winding down towards their holidays when the out-of-the-blue call came from UEFA, courtesy of tragedy in Yugoslavia.

Manager Richard Moller Nielsen had planned to spend the weeks of the European Championship decorating the kitchen. One assumes now that he can afford to pay someone else to do the job.

Grey-haired Moller Nielsen, competent, unassuming, had never found himself at such exalted heights before. But he coped magnificently with the pressure, the responsibility and all the high jinks associated with participation at one of the game's great tournaments.

Arriving late was his great advantage. He did not have time to look around and become awed by his surroundings or the strengths of his opponents.

Germany lacked Lothar Matthaus and then Rudi Voller, had manager Vogts under the spotlight two years after succeeding Franz Beckenbauer, yet had the outstanding player of the event in Thomas Hassler.

Holland, weighed by their responsibility as European title-holders, featured a daily duel between Rinus Michels and his media; France never displayed the courage of their skill; England fretted over what might have been; Sweden played impressively above their station but not in the semi-finals, by which time they had already reached the limit of their ambition.

That was Denmark's strength. Entering the tournament as ultimate underdogs, their ambition was limitless. To say "we take every game as it comes" was to hear Moller Nielsen uttering one of the game's great cliches. But no manager ever used that phrase in more appropriate circumstances. The Danes did take each game one at a time. They had no choice,

DENMARK 2 GERMANY 0

Ref: **Bruno GALLER** (Swi)
Att: **37,800**
HT: **1-0**

SCORERS

JENSEN 18, VILFORT 78

Peter SCHMEICHEL (1)	Bodo ILLGNER (1)
Torben PIECHNIK (12) 31	34 Stefan REUTER (2)
Lars OLSEN (4)	Jurgen KOHLER (4)
Kent NIELSEN (3)	Thomas HELMER (14)
John SIVEBAEK (2) ✹	Guido BUCHWALD (6)
Kim VILFORT (18)	35 Thomas HASSLER (8)
John JENSEN (7)	34 ☆ Stefan EFFENBERG (17)
Henrik LARSEN (13)	✹ Matthias SAMMER (16)
Kim CHRISTOFTE (6)	Andy BREHME (3)
Flemming POVLSEN (9)	88 Jurgen KLINSMANN (18)
Brian LAUDRUP (11)	Karlheinz RIEDLE (11)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✹ Claus CHRISTIANSEN (86 mins)	✹ 82 Thomas DOLL (46 mins)
	☆ Andreas THOM (80 mins)

MATCH STATISTICS

DENMARK		GERMANY
4	Shots on target	7
4	Shots off target	7
6	Corners	6
18	Fouls	16
3	Offsides	5
1	Bookings	5

REPORT from KEIR RADNEDGE in Gothenburg

particularly with the injuries they gathered as time went on.

One assumes that a higher initial level of fitness would have raised the players' resistance. How they kept tottering on through extra time against Holland — without Henrik Andersen, probably their finest player of the finals — when so many of their men were on their knees, was nothing short of a soccer miracle.

Of course, not only were Denmark under no exterior pressure, many other factors saved them from over-exposure until, for both European champions (Holland) and world champions (Germany) it was too late.

The big tournaments resemble a three-ring circus. The active football involves just one of them.

In another ring we have the formalities: the UEFA Congress as well as Moroccans and Americans preaching their various World Cup virtues.

In the third ring is a mixed bag which included several outbreaks of hooliganism perpetrated not only by English but also by some Swedish and German followers (to digress, this is why England, with matchless anti-hooligan expertise, remains the best place to stage the 1996 European finals).

Wagged

Other factors do influence teams. Refereeing is one. The officiating at Euro '92 was patchy, to say the least. Early on we had some finicky, fussy work with yellow cards wagged at the slightest infraction.

But the so-called "top men" in the last three matches were all well below par. Tullio Lanese of Italy was far too laid-back in Sweden v Germany; Emilio Soriano Aladren of Spain was staggeringly inept in Denmark v Holland (his refusal to book Ronald Koeman for an awful trip on Povlsen raised immediate questions about his relationship with Barcelona back in Spain); and Bruno Galler, of Switzerland, very nearly allowed the Final to slide out of control as he turned a Nelson's eye to a string of spiteful little clashes.

Germany might have felt aggrieved in the Final. They thought Kim Vilfort had fouled Andy Brehme before the first goal and they thought Vilfort handled on the way to his decisive second-half strike.

But Vogts, to his credit, would have none of it. He said: "We do not need to look to outside forces to find excuses. If we had taken all the chances we had, we would have won the match. It's as simple as that."

No wonder the Danish fans made more noise than their rivals. The German fans did not have a happy time at the Final. They shuffled away from the Ullevi with eyes glazed in disbelief.

Invaded

First, the faithful who had traipsed around Sweden were infuriated to learn than the extra tickets for the Final had been largely allocated for travel company packages back home. They invaded the German training camp two days before the Final and it took the personal intervention of Vogts to persuade the DFB to come to their rescue.

Once in the Ullevi, they were out-shouted by the red-and-white painted Danish day-trippers. Perhaps they already sensed what was coming. Germany dominated possession and most of the Final was played in Denmark's half of the pitch.

But Jurgen Klinsmann (twice), Stefan Reuter and Stefan Effenberg were all denied a first-half goal either by poor finishing or good stops from keeper Peter Schmeichel.

In the midst of the half, Vilfort robbed Andy Brehme, set Povlsen free with a superb backheel and the centre-forward from Germany's Borussia Dortmund (!) laid on the opportunity which John Jensen took in style.

Germany had opened in predictable formation. Reuter, Kohler, Helmer and Buchwald comprised yet another top-heavy defensive line; Hassler, Effenberg, Sammer and Brehme were an under-strength midfield; Klinsmann and Riedle were inconsistently served up front.

Denmark used Lars Olsen free as usual, with the promising Torben Piechnik on Riedle, the ultimately triumphant Kent Nielsen on Klinsmann and John Sivebaek blocking Brehme's advances on the right.

Versatile Kim Christofte took over the role on the left of defence left vacant by the gruesome knee injury Henrik Andersen had suffered in the semi-final victory over Holland.

Andersen's loss (he would have been suspended had he not been injured) could have been decisive. He had

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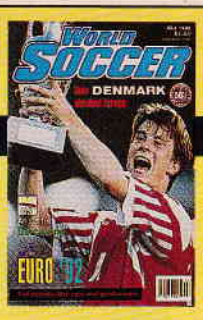

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been Denmark's best player earlier in the tournament. Tactically and technically he was the ideal man to confront Hassler. To be fair, Christofte did well enough not only in containing — rather than cutting out — Hassler but in making sure that Denmark maintained numerical superiority in midfield.

Thomas Doll appeared in place of Sammer for Germany after half-time in an attempt to bring more movement to midfield and attack. Steadily, the Germans began moving more adroitly.

They were helped by Schmeichel's propensity for kicking every clearance long and high and thus perpetually handing possession back to the World Cup holders. A delicate far-post cross from Klinsmann was hooked acrobatically off the line by Nielsen. Then, from the corner, Klinsmann's flying header was brilliantly flipped over the bar by Schmeichel.

Blocked

Occasionally, Denmark broke forward. Laudrup flitted in and out of the game but Povlsen kept going magnificently. In the 71st minute Vilfort screwed a rare chance across the face of goal. But he made no mistake in the 78th minute.

Germany blocked a free-kick, the ball ricocheted into the air, substitute Claus Christiansen headed down and Vilfort appeared to control the ball with his right forearm before striking it into the net via Bodo Illgner's left-hand post.

Referee Galler had been unsighted so often, that his failure to award the free-kick for which the Germans appealed was no surprise. That, as the Danish fans had long been singing, was "Auf Wiedersehen" for Germany.

Vogts and stand-in skipper Brehme were generous in praise of Denmark in defeat. Vogts was unhappy with his team's "headless chicken" football in the first-half and a failure to take their chances.

On an individual level, he was disappointed with Mathias Sammer's failure to attack more effectively from midfield in the first half.

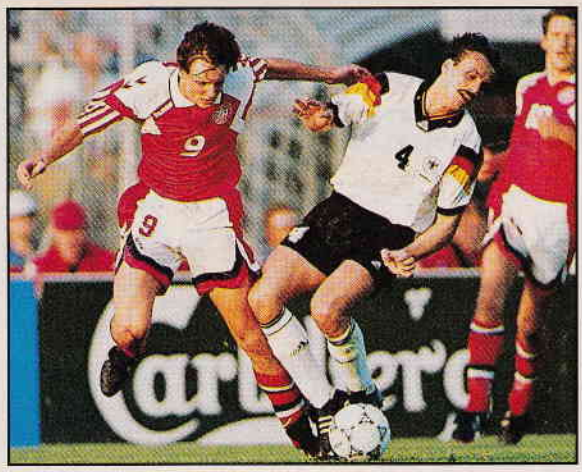
Moller Nielsen was delighted. He and his players could not grasp quite what had happened to them. In less than a month they had turned failure into fulfilment.

Denmark arrived in Sweden with nothing to prove. From here on they will find life very different. Now they are Kings of Europe, expected to play the role every time they go out on the pitch. Sitting back, playing contain-and-counter, will no longer suffice.

Brian Laudrup and Co. will be expected to seize the attacking initiative. They will be expected to play every minute of every game like the champions they had outrageously become.

Holland and Germany will tell them how impossibly tough that can be. In the meantime, let Denmark enjoy every moment of their triumph. They will be brought back down to earth soon enough — in Latvia in the World Cup qualifiers on August 26 and then (would you believe it?) in a Copenhagen friendly the next month against . . . Germany. By then the emotions which heated a Swedish midsummer will have dissipated a little. But their victory will never be forgotten, nor their achievement.

Denmark provided a thrilling reminder of football's unpredictability, even at the highest level. Their success breathed new life into European football, into every nation, every club, every player. After all, if Denmark can do it . . .



MAN OF THE MATCH
KIM VILFORT

MINUTE BY MINUTE

0 — Denmark kick off.
4 — Schmeichel grabs a cross off Klinsmann's head.
6 — Reuter plays a one-two with Sammer and goes clear into the box but his shot is blocked by the fast-retreating Christofte.
14 — Nielsen is lectured for a tackle from behind on Riedle.
18 — Denmark take the lead. Vilfort robs Brehme, backheels down the line to Povlsen, who pops the ball back and ***JENSEN*** drives past Illgner.
22 — Effenberg slips the ball forward for Klinsmann. He turns and shoots on the run. The ball heads low for the inside of Schmeichel's right-hand post but the keeper tips it away for a corner.
24 — Sammer brings down Povlsen in revenge foul for an unpenalised "foul" by the Dane seconds earlier.
27 — Illgner rushes from his penalty box to kick clear at the onrushing Vilfort's feet.
28 — Illgner fumbles a lazy Jensen shot and concedes an unnecessary corner.
31 — Piechnik is shown the yellow card for fouling Klinsmann.
33 — The Danish fans start taunting the Germans with chants of "Auf Wiedersehen!"
34 — Effenberg is booked for a tackle from behind on Vilfort.
38 — Hassler is the third player cautioned, for a bad tackle on the escaping Christofte.
45 — Reuter and Klinsmann set up Effenberg. Schmeichel pushes the shot high over his bar for a corner.
Half-time: Denmark 1, Germany 0.
46 — Germany restart the match with Doll substituting for Sammer.
48 — Povlsen and Doll are separated by other players after a minor scuffle over a foul by Doll on Jensen.
54 — Reuter is booked for bringing down Vilfort.
66 — Denmark replace Sivebaek with Claus Christiansen.
71 — Laudrup breaks at speed for Denmark and finds Vilfort free on the right but the midfielder slices his shot wide across the face of the goal.
72 — Germany twice go close. First Nielsen clears under the bar after a superb short cross by Klinsmann, then Klinsmann has a diving header from a corner flipped brilliantly over the bar by Schmeichel.
78 — Germany fail to clear a free-kick effectively, Claus Christiansen heads down and ***VILFORT*** bursts through the German defence to shoot in off Illgner's left-hand post. The Germans protest that he handled the ball first. Referee Galler ignores the complaints.
80 — Thom substitutes Effenberg in Germany's midfield.
81 — A Thom drive appears to be deflected for a corner but the referee awards a goal kick.
82 — Doll is booked for fouling Jensen.
88 — Klinsmann is booked for fouling Jensen.
Full-time: Denmark 2, Germany 0.

Top . . . Povlsen clashes with Kohler.

Above . . . Schmeichel, one of Denmark's greatest heroes, with the trophy.

Right . . . red and white triumph.

What they said . . .

RICHARD MOLLER NIELSEN: I am a very happy man. I can't praise the players enough. Of course, we would like to have played the Final a little more in the German half of the field but the Germans have a fine team and our players were very tired. I must also pay a tribute to our doctors and masseurs for getting all our players (except, of course, Andersen and Bent Christensen) fit for the Final. I must say, after the match the entire German delegation, led by Berti Vogts, showed great sportsmanship in their congratulations to us.

PETER SCHMEICHEL: We still don't understand what we have done. We knew this would be the most difficult game we had ever played. Germany are always difficult opponents and they have so much experience of playing in Finals. We knew they would attack us from the first whistle and try to make the most of the fact that we played 120 minutes against Holland and had had one day fewer to rest. But we were confident we could do what we did against Holland — and we did even better by winning inside the 90 minutes.

BRIAN LAUDRUP: We had a little luck against Germany but we played well against Holland. I think we're the right European champions! I phoned my friend from Bayern Munich, Stefan Effenberg, the night before the Final and I told him we would win. He was sad but very gracious in defeat. We exchanged shirts afterwards.

JOHN JENSEN: We knew we had to keep it very tight in defence right from the start. Schmeichel put together a superb game to help us become the No. 1 team in the world . . . do I mean world? No, I mean Europe. Although, thinking about it — we did beat the world champions so we MUST be No. 1 in the world.

BERTI VOGTS: I must congratulate Denmark. They deserved to win and are worthy European champions. They beat France, sent Holland home and now they have beaten us. We made two mistakes and they punished us with some ice-cold finishing. However we failed to take any of the chances we made. The problem was that in the first half we were caught up by the emotion of the occasion. It was headless chicken football. That's not how I want my teams to play. We sent long, hopefuls passes forward and that's just what Denmark wanted us to do. I could blame the referee if there were fouls before the two Danish goals; I could blame the absence of Matthaus and Voller; I could blame our luck. But if you don't score goals and the other team do, then you cannot complain at finishing second best. I would point out that several of my players were appearing in a big tournament for the first time. They will learn from the experience and put it to use as we soldier on in the World Cup.

ANDY BREHME: Denmark deserved it. We played some good football in the first 20 minutes but then they scored the unfortunate goal for 1-0 and we always knew that if Denmark got in front we would have problems. This Final looked a simple task

Black marks for Sweden

SWEDEN'S organisation of Euro '92 was low-key but efficient, polite and highly-polished . . . until it came to the very end.

Blunder No. 1 was to surround the presentation podium after the Final with all UEFA's flags. That meant NOBODY in the stadium, except those directly in front of the podium, saw the presentation of the Henri Delaunay Trophy to Denmark captain Lars Olsen. The Danish fans were denied the sight they most cherished.

Blunder No. 2 was the vast fireworks display which was fired from within the centre circle and the roof of the stands during that same presentation. During the finals, the German and Dutch federations were fined because their fans let off fireworks in the stadia. If fireworks around crowds are dangerous, then whether they are fired by fans or federations is immaterial.

Obviously, UEFA will not fine the Swedish federation. But UEFA should make it clear: the only fireworks the game needs are the sort Denmark provided on the pitch.

As for the rest . . .

GROUP ONE

SWEDEN: Manager Tommy Svensson and his players deserve major credit for raising the level of their game and bringing light and life to what would otherwise have been an incredibly dreary group. Sweden did not boast the most gifted players or the most sophisticated tactics. But they capitalised on hosts' pride, the complementary skills of Stefan Schwarz and Jonas Thern in midfield, the developing talent of Tomas Brolin in attack plus the worthy support work of Jan Eriksson and Klas Ingesson. Svensson deserves special credit for manipulating his resources to maximum effect — best seen in the way his half-time changes turned around the decisive group match against England.

FRANCE: Simply, a disgrace. They brought not only skill and ability but the confidence born of a 100 per cent record in the qualifiers. Yet, instead of seizing the creative intiative, manager Michel Platini let fear take over. The preference of Luis Fernandez in midfield, the virtual abandonment of Papin up front were symptoms of a hitherto hidden malaise within the French camp. Platini may not have possessed the talents of France's 1984 winners, but he was blessed with a great deal more ability than we saw. Papin was in such deadly form — two chances, two goals — that it would not have required an enormous change of emphasis to have turned the group inside out.

ENGLAND: Disappointing — to put it mildly. Manager Graham Taylor pointed to his injuries. But he had never fielded a regular team, anyway (and Paul Gascoigne was once, remember, omitted from an important qualifying tie). Tactics were a puzzle. On the eve of the finals, Taylor publicly preached the virtues of 3-5-2 then reverted to a flat back four. But his most damaging move will probably prove to have been the substitution of record-seeking skipper Gary Lineker in the second half against Sweden. Taylor argues that, in the short term, it was correct. But, long term, it may well have undermined, fatally, his managerial credibility with his public.

GROUP TWO

HOLLAND: The old achilles heel: just when Holland needed to dig for victory they tried to show off. They possessed an abundance of class, tactics which suited them and a manager with more experience than all the rest put together.

Marco Van Basten, the hero four years ago, was the scapegoat for both failing to score in four games and missing the decisive penalty. But Van Basten played well for the team without much luck; Frank Rijkaard was superb; only Ruud Gullit, of the Milan trio, was a little below par.

When Holland needed something special against the Danes he could not find it. One plus: Dennis Bergkamp was their three-goal top scorer — and still has enormous potential.

SCOTLAND: Andy Roxburgh's Scotland were the British consolation, proving that UK football does not have to be dull, spiritless and devoid of entertainment. Scotland were, perhaps, released from pressure as the group underdogs.

But they earned enormous respect for the way they carried their football to Holland and Germany then maintained their will to win against the CIS.

Manager Roxburgh held his nerve.

Richard Gough was an exemplary captain and Scotland's fans delighted Sweden with their good behaviour, their full-blooded support for their team and their vocally-expressed thanks to their Swedish hosts.

All-round, Scotland left a far, far better impression than England.

CIS: The end of the 3-0 defeat by Scotland in Norrkoping was also the final whistle on 40 years of football history since the Soviet Union's competitive debut at the Helsinki Olympics.

That the CIS made Germany and Holland work so hard was remarkable.

Manager Anatoli Bishovets misjudged the physical preparation needs of his foreign-based players and clearly had not assessed their tactical potential either. The talents of, for example, both Shalimov and Kanchelskis, were wastefully squandered.

The CIS also lacked proper support back home.

It was only thanks to domestic charity that the players had any food at their training camp before the flight to Sweden.

KEIR **RADNEDGE**

Vilfort dilemma

KIM VILFORT'S role in Denmark's success was a most poignant one. He converted one of the penalties against Holland, he helped make one goal (for John Jensen) and scored the other in the Final.

Yet he might not have been there. Vilfort's seven-year-old daughter, Line, suffers from leukaemia. After the second match defeat by Sweden, Vilfort was called home to Copenhagen because of concern over Line's condition.

Happily, she improved. Vilfort's wife urged him to return to Sweden. He was, understandably, undecided. As he watched Denmark's next game, against France, on television Vilfort's four-year-old son asked him: "Daddy, why aren't you playing?"

After discussing matters again with his wife and Danish officials, Vilfort decided that everyone's best interests would be served by trying to carry on as normal. The rest is soccer history.

SCORERS

3	Dennis **BERGKAMP**	*(Holland)*
	Tomas **BROLIN**	*(Sweden)*
	Henrik **LARSEN**	*(Denmark)*
	Karlheinz **RIEDLE**	*(Germany)*
2	Jan **ERIKSSON**	*(Sweden)*
	Thomas **HASSLER**	*(Germany)*
	Jean-Pierre **PAPIN**	*(France)*
	Frank **RIJKAARD**	*(Holland)*
1	Kennet **ANDERSSON**	*(Sweden)*
	Igor **DOBROVOLSKI**	*(CIS)*
	Stefan **EFFENBERG**	*(Germany)*
	Lars **ELSTRUP**	*(Denmark)*
	John **JENSEN**	*(Denmark)*
	Jurgen **KLINSMANN**	*(Germany)*
	Gary **McALLISTER**	*(Scotland)*
	Brian **McCLAIR**	*(Scotland)*
	Paul **McSTAY**	*(Scotland)*
	David **PLATT**	*(England)*
	Kim **VILFORT**	*(Denmark)*
	Rob **WITSCHGE**	*(Holland)*

TREVOR**BROOKING**

Flair must be the PRIORITY

Down and out . . . a ruptured achilles tendon ruled John Barnes out of the European Championship finals.

THE European Championship again proved an unhappy tournament for England, bottom of their group, with two points from three matches.

Although two goal-less draws made it marginally better than in 1988, it was still a pretty dismal outcome and the manner of the performances did not offer much hope for the future.

The signs were there since the beginning of last season, because in the last 12 matches, while they have lost only two, they have managed to win only four. It reflects the obvious impression that the current England line-up is difficult to beat, but lacks the attacking flair necessary to score many goals. Never was that more evident than in Sweden.

Graham Taylor's preparation was not helped by a series of withdrawals late on, and then a spate of injuries to squad members. Certainly the retention of 22 clubs for the newly-formed Premier League is a dreadful mistake based purely on greed.

Eighteen should have been the absolute maximum, and would at least allow managers and players some extra time to recover and maintain a more consistent level of fitness. It might also allow the coaches to spend some time actually improving the technical weaknesses of individuals rather than working on the physical aspect.

Accident

The right-back position proved a continual headache from the moment Rob Jones was forced to pull out. Lee Dixon injured a knee in a freak accident at home, and then Gary Stevens suffered a stress fracture in Finland.

By the time the squad were set to fly out to Sweden, Dixon had all but recovered, yet rather than take that chance, Keith Curle was selected instead.

John Barnes's awful achilles tendon rupture was the worst blow of the lot, because without him and Paul Gascoigne the squad were bankrupt of individual brilliance.

The final squad drama to unfold was the last-minute absence of Mark Wright on the morning of the team's departure from Luton. Apparently the England management team were only told late the previous afternoon of his possible injury problem, despite being back from Finland three days earlier.

This led to a somewhat farcical "will he, won't he?" saga in Sweden which eventually ended with Wright's failure to regain fitness.

The fact that Taylor anticipated using Wright in a sweeper-type role as one of three central defenders could not have improved the manager's mood, and the affair must throw a huge doubt over Wright's international future.

His absence also changed the tactical thinking. Although Taylor indicated that he felt it was time to think of deviating away from the traditional back-four system, that formation featured in two of the matches played.

The opening half against Denmark encouraged hopes of a more promising outcome, but chances were missed and the team were almost punished for that after the interval.

Suddenly the passing became ragged and the Danes began to grow in confidence.

Only a kind rebound from the base of an English goalpost kept the game scoreless.

With Jean-Pierre Papin and Eric Cantona to follow, England reverted to the sweeper system against France, while Michel Platini selected an even more defensive line-up for his own team.

A drab, lifeless game nearly came to life when Stuart Pearce struck a terrific free-kick against the underside of the crossbar, but the scoreline remained blank yet again.

Defensively it appeared a more solid performance during that second match, but for the decisive meeting with hosts Sweden, Taylor decided to go back to his flat back four to gain the win he needed.

That elusive first goal came right at the start from David Platt and everyone hoped it would be the launching pad for better things, but when Tony Daley missed a couple of good chances, Sweden began to edge themselves back into the match.

The introduction of Johnny Ekstrom as an extra striker for the second half proved a master stroke for Sweden, and they proceeded to outplay England, with goals from Jan Eriksson and the brilliant Tomas Brolin.

The saddest moment of all came midway through that traumatic comeback, when Graham Taylor amazed everyone by substituting his

Down in the dumps . . . Taylor.

Constant switching confuses players

captain, Gary Lineker, and so ending an illustrious international career.

Although he had been ineffective for the opening 20 minutes in the second half it was primarily due to the total dominance of the opposition and I would have expected an additional striker alongside Lineker to have been more productive.

Accept

A tactical switch back to the sweeper system to help the defence cope was another possible option, but in the ending nothing could stem the inevitable defeat.

At the gloomy, final media conference many reasons and ideas were put forward to explain the disappointment, but the only real conclusion was to accept that presently England do not have players of sufficient quality.

Taylor's suggestion that Sweden beat England with the direct ball style

Down the pan . . . Wright's hopes were wrecked by a last-minute injury.

seen at home did not coincide with my own thoughts, and their marvellous second goal surely confirmed that.

They undoubtedly turned England round at the back, but more often than not it was with controlled passes, rather than the up and under style so often displayed on Football League grounds.

If possible, a more settled side and pattern need to emerge. Chopping and changing makes it very difficult for players to achieve the right blend and understanding.

I dread to think that this defeat could convince Taylor to condemn the England team to adopt a long-ball style at international level. He must hope that sufficient English club managers can stick to their principles and encourage and motivate players to improve their passing technique and skill.

If England are to qualify for future tournaments, flair must be restored as a priority, not extinguished.

1992 EUROPEAN C

DENMARK

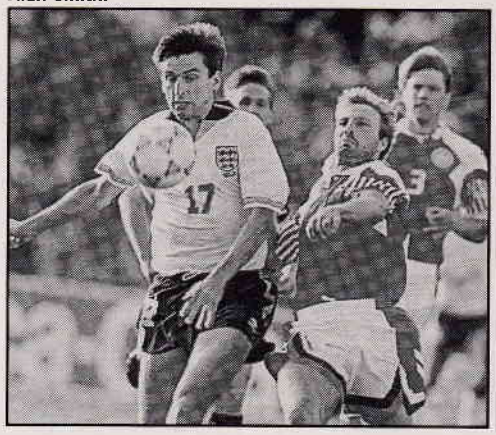
No	Player	Club	P	Born	C	G
1	Peter **SCHMEICHEL**	Manchester Utd (Eng)	G	18.11.63	52	0
2	John **SIVEBAEK**	Monaco (Fra)	D	25.10.61	82	1
3	Kent **NIELSEN**	AGF Arhus	D	28.12.61	54	3
4	Lars **OLSEN**	Trabzonspor (Tur)	D	02.02.61	62	3
5	Henrik **ANDERSEN**	Koln (Ger)	M	07.05.65	29	2
6	Kim **CHRISTOFTE**	Brondby	M	24.08.60	16	1
7	John **JENSEN**	Brondby	M	03.05.65	48	2
8	Johnny **MOLBY**	Velje	M	04.02.69	14	0
9	Flemming **POVLSEN**	Borussia Dortmund (Ger)	F	03.12.66	50	17
10	Lars **ELSTRUP**	OB Odense	F	24.03.63	25	12
11	Brian **LAUDRUP**	Bayern Munich (Ger)	F	22.02.69	30	5
12	Torben **PIECHNIK**	B1903	D	21.05.63	7	0
13	Henrik **LARSEN**	Lyngby	M	17.05.66	22	4
14	Torben **FRANK**	Lyngby	F	16.06.68	5	0
15	Bent **CHRISTENSEN**	Schalke 04 (Ger)	F	04.01.67	18	8
16	Mogens **KROGH**	Brondby	G	31.10.63	1	0
17	Claus **CHRISTIANSEN**	Lyngby	D	19.10.67	5	0
18	Kim **VILFORT**	Brondby	M	15.11.62	46	7
19	Peter **NIELSEN**	Lyngby	M	03.06.68	3	0
20	Morten **BRUUN**	Silkeborg	M	28.05.65	11	0

Henrik Larsen.

ENGLAND

No	Player	Club	P	Born	C	G
1	Chris **WOODS**	Sheffield Wednesday	G	14.11.59	34	0
2	Keith **CURLE**	Manchester City	D	14.11.63	3	0
3	Stuart **PEARCE**	Nottingham Forest	D	24.04.62	50	2
4	Martin **KEOWN**	Everton	D	24.07.66	9	1
5	Des **WALKER**	N. Forest/Sampdoria (Ita)	D	26.11.65	47	0
6	Mark **WRIGHT**	Liverpool	D	01.08.63	42	1
7	David **PLATT**	Bari (Ita)/Juventus (Ita)	M	10.06.66	32	11
8	Trevor **STEVEN**	Marseille	M	21.09.63	36	4
9	Nigel **CLOUGH**	Nottingham Forest	M	19.03.66	7	0
10	Gary **LINEKER**	Spurs/Grampus 8 (Jap)	F	30.11.60	80	48
11	Andy **SINTON**	QPR	M	19.03.66	6	0
12	Carlton **PALMER**	Sheffield Wednesday	M	05.12.65	4	0
13	Nigel **MARTYN**	Crystal Palace	G	11.08.66	2	0
14	Tony **DORIGO**	Leeds United	D	31.12.65	10	0
15	Neil **WEBB**	Manchester United	M	30.07.63	26	4
16	Paul **MERSON**	Arsenal	F	20.03.68	7	1
17	Alan **SMITH**	Arsenal	F	21.11.62	13	2
18	Tony **DALEY**	Aston Villa	F	18.10.67	7	0
19	David **BATTY**	Leeds	M	02.12.68	10	0
20	Alan **SHEARER**	Southampton	F	13.08.70	3	1

Alan Smith.



David Batty.

FRANCE

No	Player	Club	P	Born	C	G
1	Bruno **MARTINI**	Auxerre	G	25.01.62	25	0
2	Manuel **AMOROS**	Marseille	D	01.02.61	81	0
3	Franck **SILVESTRE**	Sochaux	D	05.04.67	11	0
4	Emmanuel **PETIT**	Monaco	M	22.09.70	4	0
5	Laurent **BLANC**	Napoli (Ita)	D	19.11.65	25	4
6	Bernard **CASONI**	Marseille	D	04.09.61	27	0
7	Didier **DESCHAMPS**	Marseille	M	15.10.68	24	3
8	Franck **SAUZEE**	Marseille	D	28.10.65	26	6
9	Jean-Pierre **PAPIN**	Marseille/AC Milan (Ita)	F	05.11.63	37	22
10	Luis **FERNANDEZ**	Cannes	M	02.10.59	60	6
11	Christian **PEREZ**	Paris SG	M	13.05.63	22	2
12	Chrisophe **COCARD**	Auxerre	F	23.11.67	5	0
13	Basile **BOLI**	Marseille	D	02.01.67	38	1
14	Jean-Phillipe **DURAND**	Marseille	M	11.11.60	22	0
15	Fabrice **DIVERT**	Montpellier	F	09.02.67	3	1
16	Pascal **VAHIRUA**	Auxerre	F	09.03.66	15	1
17	Remi **GARDE**	Lyon	M	03.04.66	5	0
18	Eric **CANTONA**	Leeds United (Eng)	F	24.05.66	27	12
19	Gilles **ROUSSET**	Lyon	G	22.08.63	2	0
20	Jocelyn **ANGLOMA**	Marseille	D	08.07.65	12	0

Manuel Amoros.

Eric Cantona.

SWEDEN

No	Player	Club	P	Born	C	G
1	Thomas **RAVELLI**	IFK Gothenburg	G	13.08.59	92	0
2	Roland **NILSSON**	Sheffield Wed (Eng)	D	27.11.63	48	0
3	Jan **ERIKSSON**	IFK Norrkoping	D	24.08.67	23	2
4	Patrik **ANDERSSON**	Malmo	D	18.08.71	7	0
5	Joachim **BJORKLUND**	Brann (Nor)	D	15.03.71	8	0
6	Stefan **SCHWARZ**	Benfica (Por)	D	18.05.69	16	0
7	Klas **INGESSON**	Mechelen (Bel)	M	20.08.68	26	7
8	Stefan **REHN**	IFK Gothenburg	M	22.09.66	25	5
9	Jonas **THERN**	Benfica (Por)/Napoli (Ita)	M	20.03.67	35	5
10	Anders **LIMPAR**	Arsenal (Eng)	M	24.09.65	35	3
11	Tomas **BROLIN**	Parma (Ita)	F	29.11.69	20	12
12	Lars **ERIKSSON**	IFK Norrkoping	G	21.09.65	8	0
13	Mikael **NILSSON**	IFK Gothenburg	D	28.09.68	7	0
14	Magnus **ERLINGMARK**	Orebro	D	08.07.68	16	0
15	Jan **JANSSON**	Osters	M	26.01.68	4	0
16	Kennet **ANDERSSON**	Mechelen (Bel)	F	06.10.67	17	10
17	Martin **DAHLIN**	Borussia Mg.(Ger)	F	16.04.68	12	7
18	Roger **LJUNG**	Admira Wacker (Aut)	M	08.01.66	31	0
19	Joakim **NILSSON**	Sporting Gijon (Spa)	F	31.03.66	27	3
20	Johnny **EKSTROM**	IFK Gothenburg	F	05.03.65	39	11

Klas Ingesson.

CHAMPIONSHIP SQUADS

CIS

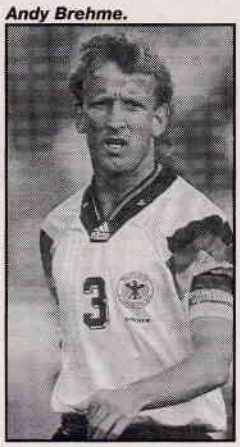
No	Player	Club	P	Born	C	G
1	Dimitri **KHARIN**	CSKA Moscow	G	16.08.68	15	0
2	Andrei **CHERNISHOV**	Moscow Spartak	D	07.01.68	26	0
3	Kakhaber **TCHADADZE**	Moscow Spartak	D	07.09.68	6	1
4	Akhrik **TSVEIBA**	Kiev Dynamo	D	10.09.66	25	2
5	Oleg **KUZNETSOV**	Rangers (Sco)	D	22.03.63	63	1
6	Igor **SHALIMOV**	Foggia/Inter Milan (Ita)	M	02.02.69	24	2
7	Alexei **MIKHAILICHENKO**	Rangers (Sco)	M	30.03.63	41	9
8	Andrei **KANCHELSKIS**	Manchester Utd (Eng)	M	23.01.69	23	3
9	Sergei **ALEINIKOV**	Lecce (Ita)	M	07.11.61	77	6
10	Igor **DOBROVOLSKI**	Servette (Swi)/Genoa (Ita)	M	27.08.67	29	8
11	Sergei **YURAN**	Benfica (Por)	F	11.06.69	16	4
12	Stanislav **CHERCHESOV**	Moscow Spartak	G	20.04.66	11	0
13	Sergei **KIRIAKOV**	Dinamo Moscow	F	01.01.70	10	5
14	Vladimir **LIUTI**	Schalke 04 (Ger)	F	20.04.62	6	1
15	Igor **KOLIVANOV**	Foggia (Ita)	F	04.08.67	24	3
16	Dimitri **KUZNETSOV**	Espanol (Spa)	M	28.08.65	21	2
17	Igor **KORNEYEV**	Espanol (Spa)	F	04.09.67	6	3
18	Viktor **ONOPKO**	Moscow Spartak	F	14.10.69	4	0
19	Igor **LEDIAKOV**	Moscow Spartak	M	22.05.68	7	1
20	Andrei **IVANOV**	Moscow Spartak	D	06.04.67	3	0

Alexei Mikhailichenko.

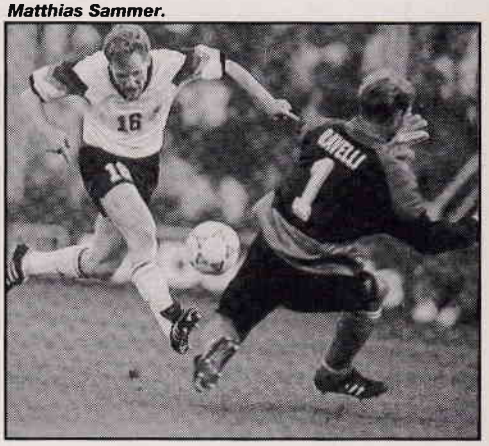
GERMANY

No	Player	Club	P	Born	C	G
1	Bodo **ILLGNER**	Koln	G	07.04.67	39	0
2	Stefan **REUTER**	Juventus (Ita)	D	16.10.66	36	2
3	Andy **BREHME**	Inter Milan (Ita)	D	09.11.60	74	8
4	Jurgen **KOHLER**	Juventus (Ita)	D	06.10.65	47	0
5	Manfred **BINZ**	Eintracht Frankfurt	D	22.09.65	14	1
6	Guido **BUCHWALD**	VfB Stuttgart	D	24.01.65	55	1
7	Andy **MOLLER**	E. Frankfurt/Juventus (Ita)	M	02.09.67	24	4
8	Thomas **HASSLER**	AS Roma (Ita)	M	30.05.66	29	5
9	Rudi **VOLLER**	AS Roma (Ita)	F	13.04.60	84	43
10	Thomas **DOLL**	Lazio (Ita)	F	09.04.66	13	1
11	Karlheinz **RIEDLE**	Lazio (Ita)	F	16.09.65	25	9
12	Andreas **KOPKE**	Nurnberg	G	12.03.62	3	0
13	Andreas **THOM**	Bayer Leverkusen	M	07.09.65	5	1
14	Thomas **HELMER**	Borussia Dortmund	D	21.04.65	10	0
15	Michael **FRONTZECK**	VfB Stuttgart	D	26.04.64	18	0
16	Matthias **SAMMER**	VfB Stuttgart/Inter (Ita)	M	05.09.67	11	0
17	Stefan **EFFENBERG**	Bayern/Fiorentina (Ita)	M	02.08.68	12	1
18	Jurgen **KLINSMANN**	Inter (Ita)/Real Madrid (Spa)	F	30.07.64	41	10
19	Michael **SCHULZ**	Borussia Dortmund	D	03.09.61	2	0
20	Christian **WORNS**	Bayer Leverkusen	M	10.05.72	2	0

Andy Brehme.



Matthias Sammer.



HOLLAND

No	Player	Club	P	Born	C	G
1	Hans **VAN BREUKELEN**	PSV Eindhoven	G	04.10.56	73	0
2	Berry **VAN AERLE**	PSV Eindhoven	D	08.12.62	31	0
3	Adri **VAN TIGGELEN**	PSV Eindhoven	D	16.06.57	56	0
4	Ronald **KOEMAN**	Barcelona (Spa)	D	21.03.63	60	10
5	Danny **BLIND**	Ajax	D	01.08.61	19	0
6	Jan **WOUTERS**	Bayern Munich (Ger)	M	17.07.60	52	4
7	Dennis **BERGKAMP**	Ajax	F	10.05.69	17	8
8	Frank **RIJKAARD**	AC Milan (Ita)	D	30.09.62	56	6
9	Marco **VAN BASTEN**	AC Milan (Ita)	F	31.10.64	55	24
10	Ruud **GULLIT**	AC Milan (Ita)	F	01.09.62	61	17
11	John **VAN'T SCHIP**	Ajax/Genoa (Ita)	M	30.12.63	38	2
12	Wim **KIEFT**	PSV Eindhoven	F	12.11.62	41	11
13	Stanley **MENZO**	Ajax	G	15.10.63	3	0
14	Rob **WITSCHGE**	Feyenoord	M	22.08.66	11	1
15	Aron **WINTER**	Ajax/Lazio (Ita)	M	01.03.67	25	2
16	Peter **BOSZ**	Feyenoord	M	21.11.63	6	0
17	Frank **DE BOER**	Ajax	D	01.08.61	9	0
18	Wim **JONK**	Ajax	M	12.10.66	3	0
19	Eric **VISCAAL**	Gent (Bel)	F	20.03.68	3	0
20	Brian **ROY**	Ajax	F	12.02.70	12	2

Frank Rijkaard.

Rob Witschge.

SCOTLAND

No	Player	Club	P	Born	C	G
1	Andy **GORAM**	Rangers	G	13.04.64	23	0
2	Richard **GOUGH**	Rangers	D	05.04.62	59	6
3	Paul **McSTAY**	Celtic	M	22.10.64	60	9
4	Maurice **MALPAS**	Dundee United	D	03.08.63	52	0
5	Ally **McCOIST**	Rangers	F	24.09.64	41	11
6	Brian **McCLAIR**	Manchester Utd (Eng)	F	08.12.63	26	1
7	Gordon **DURIE**	Tottenham (Eng)	F	06.12.65	21	4
8	Dave **McPHERSON**	Hearts	D	28.01.64	23	0
9	Stewart **McKIMMIE**	Aberdeen	D	27.10.63	19	1
10	Stuart **McCALL**	Rangers	M	10.06.64	20	1
11	Gary **McALLISTER**	Leeds United (Eng)	M	25.12.64	18	2
12	Henry **SMITH**	Hearts	G	10.03.56	3	0
13	Pat **NEVIN**	Everton (Eng)	F	06.09.63	14	0
14	Kevin **GALLACHER**	Coventry City (Eng)	F	23.11.66	12	0
15	Tommy **BOYD**	Celtic	D	24.11.65	10	0
16	Jim **McINALLY**	Dundee United	M	19.92.64	8	0
17	Derek **WHYTE**	Celtic	D	31.08.68	4	0
18	Dave **BOWMAN**	Dundee United	M	10.03.64	2	0
19	Alan **McLAREN**	Hearts	D	04.01.72	3	0
20	Duncan **FERGUSON**	Dundee United	F	31.07.72	3	0

Stuart McCall.

Note: *all figures include caps won and goals scored during the European Championship finals, and are correct as of 27 June, 1992.*

WORLD SOCCER'S unrivalled coverage of the 1992 European Championship finals begins here. Our reporting team in Sweden — Keir Radnedge, Jonathan Shallard and Rino Landa — review all the action, drama and excitement from Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmo and Norrkoping.

WORLD SOCCER'S in-depth analysis provides full match reports and statistics on every game. Our unrivalled coverage gives you the most comprehensive record of the 1992 tournament.

SWEDEN V FRANCE

BY KEIR RADNEDGE

Opening goal . . . Jan Eriksson powers a header past Bruno Martini.

Sliding tackle . . . Roland Nilsson is too late to stop Didier Deschamps (opposite page above).

Equalising joy . . . Jean-Pierre Papin celebrates his goal (opposite below).

SWEDEN 1 FRANCE 1

Ref: **Alexei SPIRIN** (CIS)
Att: **29,860**
HT: **1-0**

F.F.F.

SCORERS

ERIKSSON 24	PAPIN 58

Thomas RAVELLI (1)	Bruno MARTINI (1)
Roland NILSSON (2)	Basile BOLI (13)
Jan ERIKSSON (3)	Laurent BLANC (5)
Patrik ANDERSSON (4)	Bernard CASONI (6)
Joachim BJORKLUND (5) 35	☆ Jocelyn ANGLOMA (20)
Klas INGESSON (7)	52 Eric CANTONA (18)
Jonas THERN (9) 87	Franck SAUZEE (8)
Stefan SCHWARZ (6) 39	Didier DESCHAMPS (7)
Anders LIMPAR (10)	Manuel AMOROS (2)
Tomas BROLIN (11)	Jean-Pierre PAPIN (9)
Kennet ANDERSSON (16) ✸	✸ Pascal VAHIRUA (16)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✸ Martin DAHLIN (73 mins)	✸ Christian PEREZ (46 mins)
	☆ Luis FERNANDEZ (66 mins)

A low-key opening for host nation

Tactical battle earns a diplomatic point

HISTORY repeated itself. As in 1988, when hosts West Germany drew 1-1 with one of their most illustrious visitors, Italy, so Sweden scored a diplomatic point.

For an opening match it was above average — an engrossing duel of contrasting techniques and tactics with never a dull moment. It also threw up a number of intriguing questions.

Were Sweden making the best use of their sharpest weapon, Tomas Brolin, by repeatedly pulling him deep? Why had French manager Michel Platini, after three years, suddenly lost faith in the starting talents of Christian Perez? And how did Alexei Spirin, so conspicuously criticised by FIFA at the last World Cup, come by the honour of the occasion?

Sweden's value-for-money display must have been a relief to host officials after Stockholm had appeared so uninterested in the event. It may be the capital of Sweden but it clearly had no interest in being the capital of Euro '92. Indeed, the local approach to the opening match was not so much low-key as a case of not even finding the door. Taxi drivers are popularly supposed to be in tune with the common wisdom and that was perfectly represented by the one, the day before the opening, who responded to "Stadium, please," with: "What stadium?"

Focused

The Swedish organisers had not received any particular help from the local press, much of whose preliminary coverage had focused on the impending hooligan invasion. UEFA president Lennart Johansson had said that the hosts' motto was: Small is Beautiful. Perhaps Quiet is Beautiful would have been a more accurate summation.

Only on the day itself did the Swedish Football Fan dare to emerge from his/her hideaway. A veritable fairground provided a third ring beyond the two safety fences surrounding the Rasunda stadium and the underground rail platform at Solna was alive with welcoming ticket touts.

A raucous: "Any-bo-dy want tickets?" was an opening fanfare as appropriate as anything the boys and girls of Sweden could provide in their colourful opening ceremony.

The Americans, it is rumoured, have been considering staging a World Cup opening ceremony two years' hence separated from the opening match altogether. On a simple level you can see their point. When did a major tournament last stage a memorable opening match? But to divorce ceremony from match is to concede too much to commercial and organisational pragmatism. The bottom line of the event is the football — whatever mixed feelings the footballers of Sweden and

Sweden pleased to have earned a point, France pleased to have saved one

France may have felt about their role on June 10.

Sweden arrived as local heroes but not local favourites. Jonas Thern thought they would reach the semi-finals; manager Tommy Svensson left no doubt that he would be delighted to go even that far. Swedes being level-headed people, there was no late surge of illogical ambition.

France ended the qualifiers as favourites on the strength of eight victories in eight games. Ever since then they had done their best to reduce expectation, losing to England and Switzerland in their warm-ups, drawing with Belgium and Holland.

Manager Michel Platini did not appear unduly worried, saying only: "I'm pleased we have not peaked too early."

Supported

In tactical terms, no surprises. Sweden played their traditional 4-4-2, so predictable they almost numbered in order. France played Blanc as sweeper, Boli on Brolin and Casoni on Kennet Andersson at the back, then Deschamps and Sauzee as midfield anchors supported from various angles by Angloma, Cantona and Amoros. In attack Vahirua trod the left wing touchline as a old-fashioned winger with Papin in the centre.

It soon became evident that Sweden considered Limpar one of their most important weapons on the counter attack. France, having seen that coming for months, made sure they forced him to run square across midfield.

Even then Limpar still threatened. In the tenth minute he was forced into the centre but tripped and, while he made great play of clutching his bruises, Brolin lifted a quick free kick over an unprepared French defence and Schwarz miscued his "free" volley wide.

As the first half went on, so Thern emerged as the commander in midfield. He kept France guessing with those passes so effectively made off the "wrong" foot.

Sweden deserwedly took the lead after 24 minutes. Kennet Anderssson forced a corner on the left, Limpar curled it to the goal area and Jan Eriksson steamed through to head past Martini. No-one picked him up; not the French midfielders and certainly not his marker.

Sweden had risen to the occasion and were playing their best game in years. France were second best, in physical terms failing to support their men as effectively in attack, in midfield or in defence.

When Limpar did get away wide down the left Angloma collected the first yellow card of the finals for his trip. Limpar aimed the free-kick at the far post and when Patrik Andersson advanced for the header, Martini grabbed the ball at the feet of Ingesson and the other Andersson.

Martini was face down on his line again in the 42nd minute, this time falling on a free-kick fired low through the wall by Schwarz after a trip by Casoni.

Schwarz also collected Sweden's first yellow card, for a trip on Angloma. But France had little more to show for their first-half class — apart from a penalty claim by Papin, blatantly pushed to the ground by Jan Eriksson as he chased a Cantona cross. If FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter had been watching referee Spirin's inaction on television he might have felt justified in phoning UEFA counterpart Gerd Aigner to say: "I told you so."

Deserved

To be fair, France would hardly have deserved to be all-square at the interval. Platini, recognising that the match was slipping away, duly replaced the peripheral Vahirua with Perez.

The switch proved crucial, though not until after 13 minutes in which the French defence continued at sixes and sevens.

Ingesson, awkwardly exposed out on the right, began to look more and more the Swedish weak link. It was precisely when a move out there broke down that Perez found the time to entice the Swedish defence forward and create Papin's first and last gap of the match. The Milan-bound striker nodded the angled cross forward and left the goalkeeper helpless. Waving play on was a brave decision by the linesman since Papin was only just in line with Sweden's hesitant back-marker, Patrik Andersson. Ravelli could not be blamed. Indeed, he played with great confidence, his handling unusually secure for a big tournament.

That goal took a little of the steam out of Sweden. Ingesson rocked a post with one header but Boli, at last, began to get to grips with Brolin and Fernandez, brought on to add his experience, performed like a road block in midfield.

As the last half hour drifted on, both teams started to settle for the draw. Sweden were pleased to have gained a point, France were pleased to have saved a point.

Platini, later, admitted France had been below the mark in midfield in the first half. Sweden boss Tommy Svensson thought his men might have made more of their chances.

Both managers suspected they had handed the group initiative to England. Little did they know.

WS

MAN OF THE MATCH
JONAS THERN

UEFA 92
GROUP 1
MALMO
JUNE 11

DENMARK V ENGLAND

BY KEIR RADNEDGE

Taylor satisfied with a point

Under-prepared Denmark hold under-strength England

Wood you believe it . . . Jensen's shot beats Woods but hits a post.

DENMARK arrived at short notice but hardly in any greater state of confusion than injury-ravaged England.

That honours were even at the final whistle was pure justice after a match which was entertaining if technically bereft. The result, added to the Sweden-France stalemate, meant that the group remained wide open and guaranteed a high-tension finale.

England's problems stemmed from a disastrous last warm-up against Finland eight days earlier. In fact, it was more of a burn-out for fragile John Barnes (his injury was almost inevitable), right-back Gary Stevens (himself a deputy for injured Rob Jones and Lee Dixon) and Mark Wright.

Keith Curle and Andy Sinton were produced as UEFA-permitted replacements for Stevens and Barnes — Sinton after a will-they won't-they piece of indecision redolent of other days. But that was as nothing compared with the saga surrounding Wright which provided unnecessary extra stress for manager Graham Taylor just at the time when he needed it the least.

For the sake of the record, Wright aggravated an old achilles injury against the Finns. Liverpool somehow managed to keep the injury secret, even from Taylor, for two days. Then followed a nonsensical game of cat and mouse which ended when Wright flew to Sweden to be assessed as formally unfit by UEFA's medical expert.

That was a matter of hours before England faced the Danes. Understandably Taylor then waited until the last possible minute, little more than an hour before kick-off, before naming his team. Perhaps it was superstition, to avoid provoking any further injuries. Perhaps it was to gain as much time as possible to think how to redeploy his rapidly diminishing forces.

In the circumstances the inclusion of Alan Smith made some sense, even if two goals in 11 well-spread internationals were hardly the stuff of potential champions. But Taylor, strangely mistrustful of Alan Shearer, had run out of experienced partners for record-seeking Gary Lineker. Thus he went back to Smith, the centre forward who complemented the fledgling Lineker in his early days at Leicester a decade earlier.

Denmark kicked off, delighted to find themselves in the finals, if diplomatically reluctant to say quite how much. The threat they posed was illustrated by the two yellow cards Martin Keown and Keith Curle collected inside the opening ten minutes for fouls on Povlsen and Andersen respectively (Curle was a little fortunate not to be sent off five minutes before half-time for pulling back Andersen).

Denmark listed heavily to port, looking to the defensively unrestricted Andersen to link with the nimbly impressive Brian Laudrup. They were not assisted, however, by Povlsen's tendency to make a pass then stand and admire his work rather than run for a return.

Honours even after a match which was entertaining if technically bereft

Denmark, with just one match against the CIS to prepare for the finals, looked like a scrambled jigsaw puzzle with none of the pieces quite fitting together. They could have used the midfield control of Jan Molby but he never figured seriously in manager Richard Moller Nielsen's plans.

The first half contained too much tatty passing from both sides. England tried their best to raise the pace of the game as Taylor wanted. Paul Merson raided to dangerous effect on several occasions but his finishing lacked either luck or definition and he was later slowed by injury.

Twice England might have profited from Schmeichel's fumbling unease in the face of the setting sun. But the closest they came was in the 12th minute when Palmer volleyed in a Steven corner and Platt's close-range swipe was flicked round the post by Schmeichel. Manchester United's goalkeeper made another reflex deflection from Smith in the 25th minute.

The closest Denmark went in the first half was in the eighth minute, after the Keown booking, when Povlsen's free-kick off a deceptive two-step "run-up" flew narrowly wide of Chris Woods's left-hand post.

But if England had the better of the first half, the Danes had the better of the second. Jensen grew ever more influential in midfield as Denmark moved the ball more fluently.

In the 51st minute Jensen, picking a path through midfield, fired wide. Then he embarrassed Woods with an angled cross which dropped just beyond the keeper's right-hand post. Jensen was also the closest to a goal. The finest move of the match, in the 61st minute, saw Povlsen, Sivebaek and Christensen creating the space into which Jensen stepped to force an angled shot against the inside of a post . . . and out.

Taylor was satisfied, in his own way, at having survived to take a point.

MAN OF THE MATCH
JOHN JENSEN

DENMARK 0 ENGLAND 0

Ref: **John BLANKENSTEIN** (Hol)
Att: **26,385**
HT: **0-0**

Peter **SCHMEICHEL** (1)	Chris **WOODS** (1)
Kent **NIELSEN** (3)	10 ✸ Keith **CURLE** (2)
Lars **OLSEN** (4)	8 Martin **KEOWN** (4)
Kim **CHRISTOFTE** (6)	Des **WALKER** (5)
John **SIVEBAEK** (2) 88	Stuart **PEARCE** (3)
Kim **VILFORT** (18)	Trevor **STEVEN** (8)
John **JENSEN** (7)	Carlton **PALMER** (12)
Brian **LAUDRUP** (11)	David **PLATT** (7)
Henrik **ANDERSEN** (5)	☆ Paul **MERSON** (16)
Bent **CHRISTENSEN** (15)	Gary **LINEKER** (10)
Flemming **POVLSEN** (9)	Alan **SMITH** (17)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✸ Tony DALEY (61 mins) 67
☆ Neil WEBB (70 mins)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Sweden	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Denmark	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
England	1	0	1	0	0	0	1

EURO 92
GROUP 1
MALMO
JUNE 14

Impoverished England draw blank again

French show caution to the end

MATCH DAY dawned with clouds over England after hooligan trouble in Malmo's old town overnight. Two youths had refused police orders to come down off the beer tent roof and that was the catalyst for chair-throwing, window-smashing, motorbike -burning and the petrol station robbery which followed.

Police with horses and dogs contained the trouble but, at the end of it all, some 22 people were receiving hospital treatment, eight were being expelled from the country and English Government Minister David Mellor was finding out at first hand about the minefield hidden within his National Heritage Ministry.

Sadly, the football proved, in its own way, almost as negative. Realism Rules.

That was the message of the two teams' performances and the words of France manager Michel Platini afterwards.

Entertainment. Excitement. Goal action. Creative skill. All were notable by their absence.

And it was not even as if the Malmo crowd had seen the sort of error-strewn scramble which would have provided, at best, some light relief. At least England's previous draw, against Denmark, had been entertaining. But this match was the worst of the finals thus far. The England fans thundered: "What a load of rubbish," at the end and deserved some sympathy.

Platini was first into the post-match press conference and shrugged his Gallic way around a series of critical questions.

Then, when the inquisitorial ire had died away, he seized the microphone, unprompted, and said: "We would all like to see beautiful football and three or four goals. But you know exactly what a predicament we are in. This is a tournament. This is competitive and our first duty is not to concede goals. It doesn't look good. The fans don't like it. I understand. But this is how it is."

Sad but true. Also true that France, with more positive options than England in terms of players and thus team selection, deliberately chose the negative path by starting with veteran "midfield stopper" Luis Fernandez rather than Christian Perez.

France, after their opening draw against the Swedes, had needed to readjust their midfield balance. But not, surely, like that. Even the attack-minded Angloma's replacement by Durand was a negative influence.

France gained nothing more in attack. All that happened was that Cantona was pushed up front to support Papin, with Vahirua dropped.

England manager Graham Taylor agonised the day before the match about his selection problems. Merson, Pearce and Keown were all nursing injuries on top of the already-notified absences of half the First Division.

In the end Taylor brought Batty into midfield to harass the French, replaced Merson with Sinton (the deputy Barnes) and brought in Shearer up front for Smith. It was hard to understand why Shearer had needed to wait so long for another England start — after his fine, goal-scoring debut against the same opposition back in the spring.

England undertook most of the early pressing, occupying French territory but barely ever threatening to disturb Martini in goal. England won the first corner after six minutes and their forceful activity had Platini leaving his bench after 10 minutes to remind his men to push up.

Ironically it was when France did just this that England were presented with their best opportunity. Casoni, out on the French right, slipped and Shearer raced to the penalty box. An exact pass might have sent Lineker in for an opening goal. Instead Shearer, trying to make sure, overhit the ball and, in the end, England's reward was only a corner.

France were not only slipping and sliding, their passing was often less than deft and even Amoros, on one occasion, let a soft pass roll under his foot and out for a throw-in.

Fernandez collected the first yellow card for a late tackle on Steven. But as the half wore on so Fernandez also began to take command of the French midfield and England, coming under consistent pressure for the first time, had an escape of their own after Steven gave away possession.

France made further switches at half-time. Sauzee, who had suffered concussion in a clash of heads, was replaced by Angloma, who appeared on the right in midfield with Amoros crossing to the left.

England had the better of the first minutes after the restart. Lineker, otherwise as well controlled by Boli as Papin was by Walker, touched a through ball back for Sinton and his first-time cross was met with a diving header by Shearer. The ball flew just wide.

That appeared to galvanise the French. They began to move the ball with more purpose and confidence. Cantona swung over a corner from the right and Angloma's fierce header was cleared off the goal -line by Sinton.

England's reaction was to create a gap through the centre, only to see Platt firing wastefully over the bar.

Little more than quarter of an hour remained when Perez replaced the flagging Fernandez. His arrival was too late to regain the creative initiative for France. Indeed it was England who went closest to the winner with eight minutes to go.

Pearce, who had been butted by Boli in the game's only nasty incident, went to the touch-line to have the blood from a facial cut wiped off . . . and promptly ran back to fire a free-kick past the defensive wall and against the bar.

Entertainment. Excitement. Goal action. Creative skill. All were notable by their absence

ENGLAND 0 FRANCE 0

Ref: **Sandor PUHL** (Hun)
Att: **26,535**
HT: **0-0**

Chris WOODS (1)	Bruno MARTINI (1)
Martin KEOWN (4)	Basile BOLI (13)
Carlton PALMER (12)	Laurent BLANC (5)
Des WALKER (5)	Bernard CASONI (6)
Andy SINTON (11)	Manuel AMOROS (2)
Trevor STEVEN (8)	Didier DESCHAMPS (7)
David BATTY (19) 69	30 ☆ Luis FERNANDEZ (10)
David PLATT (7)	✹ Franck SAUZEE (8)
Stuart PEARCE (3)	Jean-Phillipe DURAND (14)
Gary LINEKER (10)	Jean-Pierre PAPIN (9)
Alan SHEARER (20)	Eric CANTONA (18)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

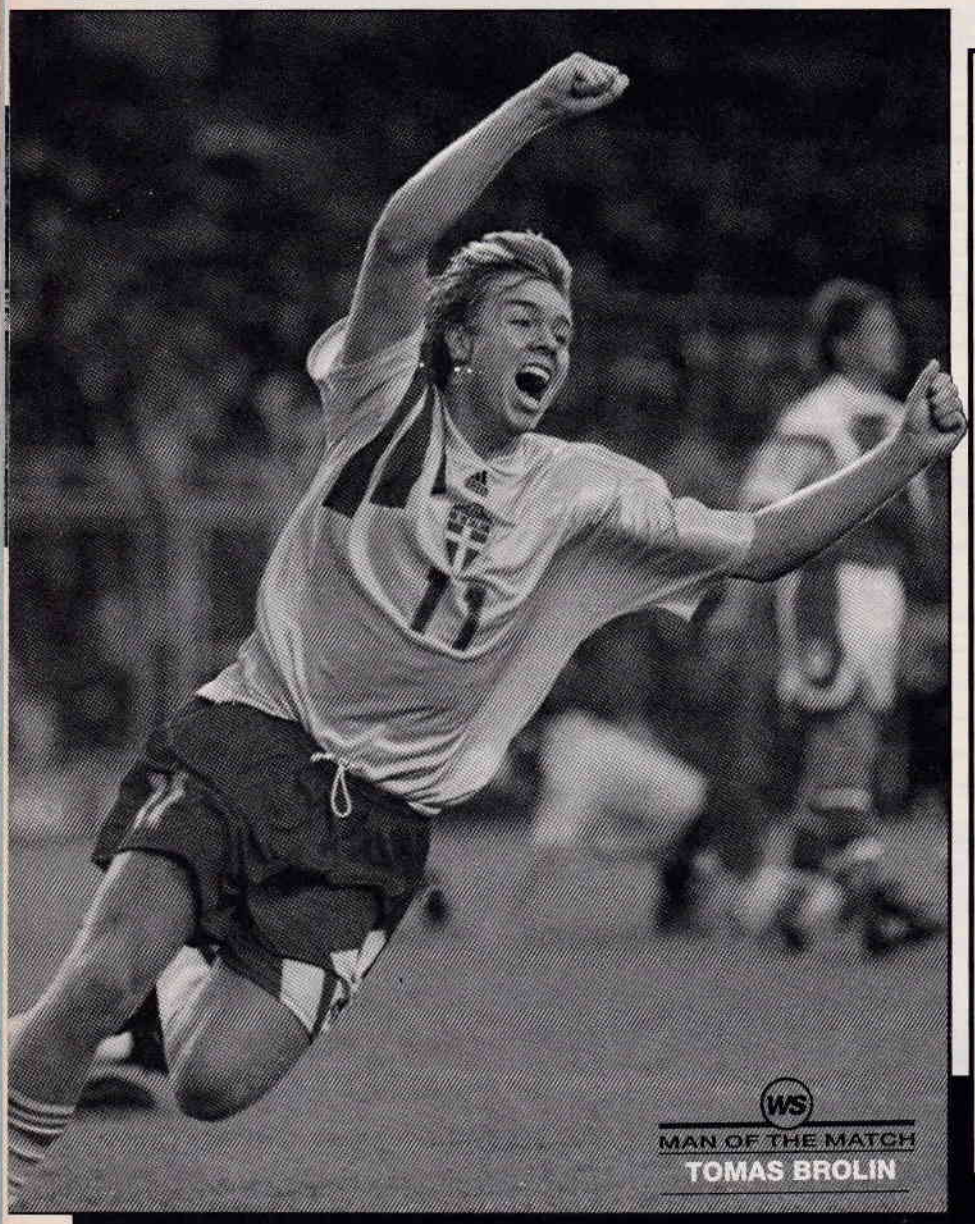
✹ Jocelyn ANGLOMA (46 mins)
☆ Christian PEREZ (74 mins)

So close . . . Pearce smashes his free-kick against the crossbar.

WS
MAN OF THE MATCH
DES WALKER

SWEDEN V DENMARK

Brolin gives Swed



SWEDEN 1 DENMARK 0

Ref: Aron SCHMIDHUBER (Ger)
Att: 29,902
HT: 0-0

SCORERS

BROLIN 58

Thomas RAVELLI (1)	Peter SCHMEICHEL (1)
Roland NILSSON (2)	Kent NIELSEN (3)
Jan ERIKSSON (3)	Lars OLSEN (4)
Patrik ANDERSSON (4) 40	Kim CHRISTOFTE (6)
Joachim BJORKLUND (5)	John SIVEBAEK (2)
Klas INGESSON (7)	Kim VILFORT (18)
Stefan SCHWARZ (6)	☆ John JENSEN (7)
Jonas THERN (9)	14 Henrik ANDERSEN (5)
Anders LIMPAR (10)	Brian LAUDRUP (11)
Tomas BROLIN (11)	Fleming POVLSEN (9)
Martin DAHLIN (17)	✹ Bent CHRISTENSEN (15)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✹ Torben FRANK (51 mins)
☆ Henrik LARSEN (62 mins)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
France	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
England	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
Denmark	2	0	1	1	0	1	1

Delirium in the Rasunda stadium

SWEDEN had not come into the finals with the most gifted squad of players or the most subtle and refined of tactics but they did bring a refreshing wind of honesty.

The hosts attacked Denmark from the start, deserved their first goal, refused to shut down the game and kept barnstorming forward in search of a second.

Denmark also played a worthy part in the fun and games. Manager Richard Moller Nielsen praised Sweden's victory afterwards but must have left Stockholm reflecting that his team had wasted their chances.

Swedish manager Tommy Svensson had few problems naming his team.

Replacement

He stuck to the men who had begun against France with the exception of Kennet Andersson's replacement by Martin Dahlin up front.

Dahlin would provide the extra mobility necessary against the Danes. Sweden also benefited from pushing Tomas Brolin further forward in attack — as the Danes would find to their cost.

Denmark started with the men who had faced England. Over the past decade they had generally been top dogs in the Nordic countries.

But now they were at a double disadvantage through their own late inclusion plus the confidence Sweden had gained from their role as hosts.

Sweden's strike force was immediately brought into action. Brolin was pushed in the back and from Limpar's free kick Dahlin headed wide at the near post.

The flank duel between Limpar and Denmark's John Sivebaek was one of the highlights of the match. Limpar was fortunate in the quality of support he received from Thern and Schwarz and the positive running of Brolin alongside and ahead of him.

Ribs

When Brolin crossed to the right Henrik Andersen collected the first yellow card of the game for clouting Brolin in the ribs as he flew past.

Dahlin was close in the 23rd minute after Schwarz and Thern had given him the chance to escape Kent Nielsen but his shot flew over both the advancing Schmeichel and the bar.

Little had been seen of Denmark in attack until the 32nd minute.

Povlsen had been forced to come deep looking for the ball. Jensen found a gap through the centre but with time and space, he put a hasty shot from Vilfort's cross over the bar.

Sweden had another escape in the 39th minute when Denmark produced

BY JONATHAN **SHALLARD**

en the edge

Grounded . . . Klas Ingesson (right) struggles to keep his balance, under pressure from the Danish defence.

Hounded . . . Lars Olsen tackles Martin Dahlin (above) as John Sivebaek looks on.

Delighted . . . Thomas Brolin (far left) turns away after scoring the winner.

their best move of the match: Povlsen backheeled, Sivebaek crossed but the ball bounced up, hit the onrushing Vilfort in the chest and popped into Ravelli's arms.

Danish pressure was reflected in a yellow card for Patrik Andersson for bringing down Brian Laudrup then in another Ravelli save. This time the goal-keeper did well to tip a fierce shot, from a free kick by Christofte, around the post.

Denmark, trying to maintain their attacking momentum, brought on Torben Frank for the disappointing Christensen early in the second half.

But the decisive breakthrough was achieved at the other end.

Thern slipped a superb pass through the Danish defence, Dahlin gave Nielsen the slip and crossed beautifully to the centre where Lars Olsen swept it out of the path of Schwarz . . . and into the shooting stride of Brolin.

One-nil to Sweden amid delirium in the Rasunda stadium.

Sweden could have had more. Schmeichel made a fine flying save from Limpar in the 74th minute and Brolin, trying too hard, saw a point-blank shot blocked somehow by Olsen on the goal-line in the 87th.

In between Denmark almost caught Sweden twice on the break.

Each time Torben Frank was the culprit. In the 81st minute he failed to follow up in the middle as Larsen headed across the face of goal. Then, a minute later, Frank mis-timed a volley after Henrik Andersen had crossed from the left.

Sweden manager Tommy Svensson was delighted with both the result and his team's performance.

Denmark consoled themselves with the thought that victory over a fragile France would still lift them into the last four.

Denmark console themselves with the thought that victory over a fragile France would still lift them into the last four

Meet the stars . . .

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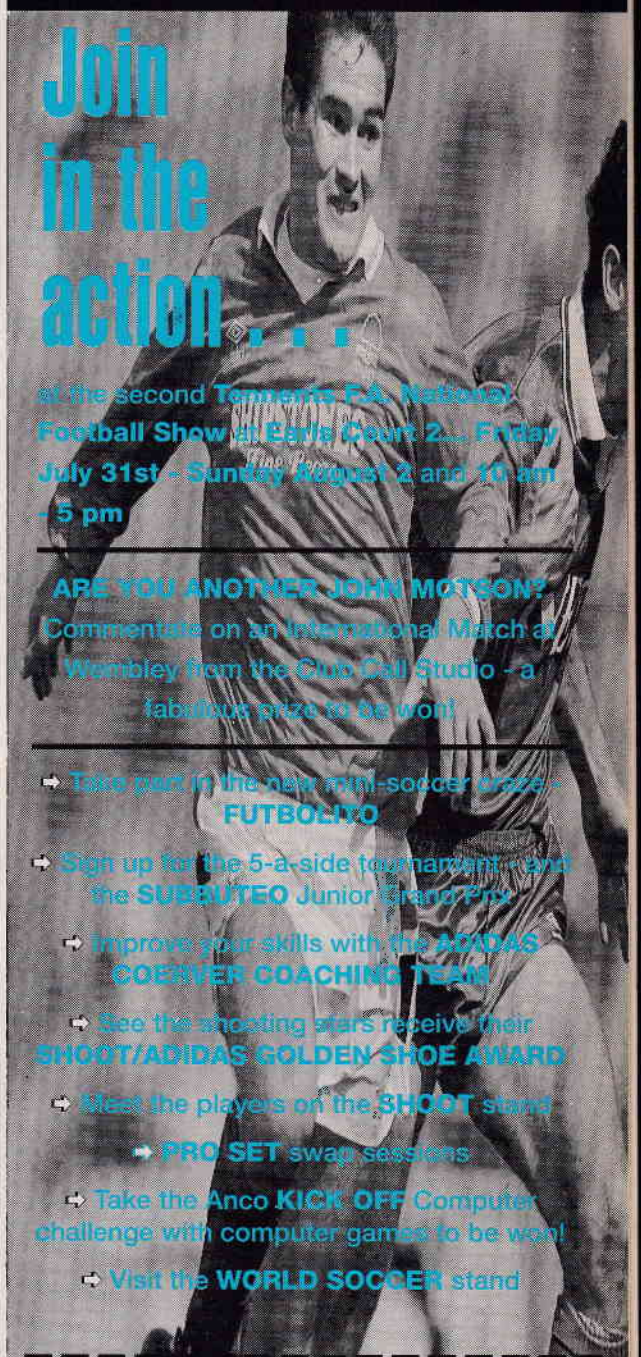

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Perfection . . . Tomas Brolin leaves Neil Webb and Des Walker trailing (above) as he collects a return pass from Martin Dahlin to score a magnificent winning goal for Sweden.

Elation . . . David Platt (left) gives the English fans brief hope as he scores England's only goal of the tournament, watched by Jonas Thern, David Batty, Joachim Bjorklund and Roland Nilsson.

as the referee, a long, long way behind the play, awarded merely a goal kick.

In between England might have scored a few more. They did not create huge openings but they manufactured a number of half-chances, any one of which might have been used to positive purpose.

In the 34th minute Lineker was inches away from a cross by Daley after a superb pass inside full-back Bjorklund by Platt.

Wasted

Then Sinton shot wide, with time on his side, in the 36th minute before Platt and Daley both wasted headed chances.

The half-time news that Denmark were beating France 1-0 meant that England were top of the group with Sweden second, Denmark third and France out. So near and yet so far. Svensson made sure of that with his half-time changes. Out went Limpar, Ingesson moved from right to left and Ekstrom arrived up front.

Svensson's thinking was transparently obvious. Ingesson was needed over the other side to help Bjorklund nail down Daley; Ekstrom was needed up front to support Brolin and Dahlin and outnumber England's centre backs.

Ekstrom was not particularly effective in personal terms but his threatening presence made all the difference. Without Ekstrom to lure England's defenders, it is unlikely Jan Eriksson would have been granted the opportunity to head Sweden level from Ingesson's 51st-minute corner.

For England to concede such a goal at a corner, given the nature of the domestic game, was almost criminal — particularly as Eriksson had already signalled his methods in the opening match against France. But that goal turned the game upside down.

Sweden were now top of the group, with England and Denmark facing the prospect of lots. But the way Sweden stepped up the pace, the prospect of the Stockholm score remaining 1-1 was slight.

England had lost composure and shape. Keown very nearly conceded what would have been a spectacular own goal, Eriksson headed the ensuing corner against the bar . . . and Taylor responded not with fresh defenders but with Smith as substitute for Lineker.

In due course this decision may be seen as the decisive own goal of Taylor's management. Public and media response was united: ending Lineker's magnificent England career by turning him into an apparent scapegoat for defeat was resented more deeply than the team's failure.

Taylor accepted full responsibility for the decision, on the grounds that he needed a centre forward who could hold the ball up while awaiting support — "which is not Gary's game."

Created

In hindsight it is easy to say that what England needed in the dying minutes of their European campaign, was the presence of the one man whose record proved him able to snatch the one chance of glory which might arise. But, in truth, England created nothing further, anyway. The game was one-way traffic.

Schwarz grew in stature, dominating midfield as his probing through passes scattered England's midfield and turned their defence inside out.

Dahlin and Brolin found space at last, every Swedish corner was a threat and

MAN OF THE MATCH

STEFAN SCHWARZ

Ekstrom should have scored when a flowing move between Ingesson, Thern and Brolin set him free on the right.

The decisive goal was magnificent. Brolin had been fouled in midfield. Sweden shuffled left from the kick, then Brolin took over again. He played one wall-pass with Ingesson then another with Dahlin, never breaking stride as he accelerated through the middle of England's defence and left Woods for dead with his finish.

Sweden were home and dry. England, outplayed, outthought and overtaken, were merely on their way home.

KEIR **RADNEDGE**

What the managers said

TOMMY SVENSSON: **The second half was the best I have seen Sweden play for years. We had some problems in the first half but once we made our changes we played some great football. We were closer to 3-1 than England were to an equaliser. Unfortunately we will be without two of our best players, Schwarz and Andersson, in the semi-finals because they were shown their second yellow cards. But we must make the best of things.**

GRAHAM TAYLOR: **Sweden beat us by playing the sort of football we see regularly each week in the Football League, but they played it better than us. There was nobody I could have sent on to help us cope any better at the back than we did. What we must decide now is where the future lies. We have become trapped between our traditional game and the feeling that, at international level, we should play a more refined style.**

GROUP 1
STOCKHOLM
JUNE 17

Lineker: The saddest farewell of all

MAKE OR BREAK. Do or die. All the relevant cliches applied. Sweden needed a draw to ensure a place in the semi-finals. But England had to win. In theory, a scoring draw might prove enough. But they could not rely on France and Denmark conspiring in their favour.

In the end, all the number crunching proved to be wasted effort.

England played their best football of the finals in the first half — and Sweden, thanks to some judicious management by Tommy Svensson, played even better in the second.

Sweden duly deserved a victory sealed with a great goal from Tomas Brolin, and England were eliminated. Gary Lineker not only failed to beat Bobby Charlton's 49-goal England record but was substituted along the way, a decision which may have more far-reaching consequences than manager Graham Taylor expects.

Svensson, delighted with both team and individuals, kept the side who had run the legs off Denmark. Taylor, doing all he could to find a positive, winning formation, made further changes.

Turning Gary into an apparent scapegoat was resented more than the team's failure.

Batty, unconvincing in midfield against France, became the third right-back in three games; Palmer moved up into midfield and Webb was brought in to provide the passes which England's strikers had so far awaited in vain.

Up front Lineker had another partner. After Smith and Shearer it was Platt's turn to find the gaps which Lineker might use to his own and England's profit.

Whether England won the group or finished runners-up was immaterial. Just qualifying would be relief enough. Whether they had the composure, against a Swedish team brimming over with excitement at the turn events had taken, was another matter entirely.

Also, of course, there was another matter for consideration: England's followers. Mostly fans, but a minority of them trouble-makers. And a further minority in neither one camp nor the other, but ready to egg on the louts if that promised better entertainment than the football.

UEFA president Lennart Johansson had muttered dark hints about reviewing England's right to host the 1996 finals if trouble in the city centres continued. This was one further cloud, England did not need.

Their fans were put in a good mood after only three minutes. Batty's nod put Lineker free on the right and his textbook cross from the touchline was volleyed home by Platt.

Sweden, having taken one blow to morale, suffered a physical blow when Ingesson had to go off for treatment to a cut over his right eye. His return, in the 15th minute, was almost immediately followed by Sweden's first shot — a drive by Thern from just outside the penalty box which was comfortably held, low down, by Woods.

England were unrecognisable from their previous matches. The ball was moved with greater precision, a renewed spirit of confidence was flowing through the side. Sweden struggled to get moving. Dahlin was getting nowhere against Keown; Brolin was being played out of the game by Walker.

Dahlin, however, produced the first moment of serious danger when he was allowed to turn on the ball and slip down the side of the penalty box. Keown's tackle brought him down but Dahlin had been looking so obviously, for the penalty that referee Rosa dos Santos waved away Sweden's claims.

He might not have been so generous to England in the 42nd minute. Brolin, for once, wriggled his way to possession in the box and, as he attempted to round Woods, was bumped over by Batty. The Swedish fans whistled and jeered in fury

SWEDEN 2 ENGLAND 1

Ref: Jose ROSA DOS SANTOS (Por)
Att: 30,126
HT: 0-1

SCORERS

ERIKSSON 51, BROLIN 82 — PLATT 1

Thomas RAVELLI (1)	Chris WOODS (1)
Roland NILSSON (2)	David BATTY (19)
Jan ERIKSSON (3)	Martin KEOWN (4)
Patrik ANDERSSON (4) 44	Des WALKER (5)
Joachim BJORKLUND (5) 69	Stuart PEARCE (3)
Klas INGESSON (7)	9 Tony DALEY (18)
Stefan SCHWARZ (6) 68	Carlton PALMER (12)
Jonas THERN (9)	81 Neil WEBB (15)
Anders LIMPAR (10) ✹	☆ Andy SINTON (11)
Martin DAHLIN (17)	David PLATT (7)
Tomas BROLIN (11)	✹ Gary LINEKER (10)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✹ Johnny EKSTROM (46 mins)	✹ Alan SMITH (61 mins)
	☆ Paul MERSON (76 mins)

Dejection . . . a sad end to Gary Lineker's international career as he is substituted after 61 minutes, a goal short of the record.

UEFA 92
GROUP 1
MALMO
JUNE 17

France lose their way again

Ecstasy . . . Henrik Larsen celebrates after giving Denmark an unexpected lead.

No answer to Danish delight

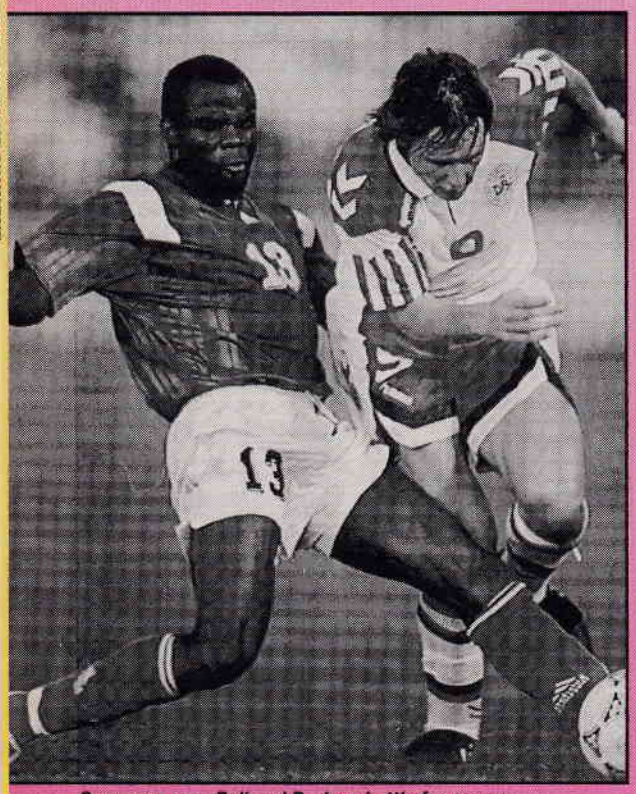
FRANCE lost the match and their place in the finals. The team who had stormed through the qualifiers deserved nothing more. Their displays in the finals had been a negative disgrace.

Denmark, while an offside question hung over their winning goal, earned their good fortune. They had played to the best of their abilities in the circumstances and were delighted to return to the semi-finals they last reached in France in 1984, when they were beaten on penalties by the Spanish.

France came into the match needing a victory where a draw should have been enough had they performed to their potential earlier on.

Instead, they had turned the tournament on its head with their grudging negativity. After scraping draws in their first two matches they did, at last, produce a line-up which promised a more fitting approach with Vahirua back on the left and Perez in midfield.

A pity manager Platini had not taken up that option back on June 10.



Supremacy . . . Boli and Povlsen battle for power.

Retained

Denmark coach Moller Nielsen may have felt the tournament in danger of slipping away from him. The Sweden match had been a big one to lose. Still the Danes were searching for a goal.

Frank, having shown he knew the general direction in his substitute's run-out against Sweden, retained his place to the exclusion of "Turbo-Bent" Christensen, who had never threatened to repeat his scoring exploits in the closing stages of the qualifiers — when Denmark very nearly caught Yugoslavia to

FRANCE 1 DENMARK 2

Ref: **Hubert FORSTINGER** (Aut)
Att: **25,673**
HT: **0-1**

F.F.F. — DBU

SCORERS

PAPIN 60 — LARSEN 6, ELSTRUP 71

Bruno MARTINI (1)	Peter SCHMEICHEL (1)
Basile BOLI (13) 37	✹ Kent NIELSEN (3)
Laurent BLANC (5)	Lars OLSEN (4)
Bernard CASONI (6) 19	Kim CHRISTOFTE (6)
Manuel AMOROS (2)	John SIVEBAEK (2)
Didier DESCHAMPS (7) 74	Henrik LARSEN (13)
Christian PEREZ (11) ☆ 30	John JENSEN (7)
Jean-Philipe DURAND (14)	Henrik ANDERSEN (5)
Eric CANTONA (18)	☆ Brian LAUDRUP (11)
Jean-Pierre PAPIN (9)	45 Torben FRANK (14)
Pascal VAHIRUA (16) ✹	12 Flemming POVLSEN (9)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✹ Luis FERNANDEZ (46 mins)	✹ Torben PIECHNIK (60 mins)
☆ Christophe COCARD (80 mins)	☆ Lars ELSTRUP (67 mins)

Final Table	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
SWEDEN	3	2	1	0	4	2	[illegible]
DENMARK	3	1	1	1	2	2	[illegible]
France	3	0	2	1	2	3	[illegible]
England	3	0	2	1	1	2	[illegible]

BY RINO LANDA

Anxiety . . . John Jensen watches as Pascal Vahirua gets in a forceful challenge on Danish full-back John Sivebaek (left).

Victory . . . Kim Christofte (6) and Henrik Andersen (5) fly the flag for Denmark (below) after their 2-1 win over the French sent them through to the semi-finals.

qualify in their own right.

But then, he also had other things on his mind after a quick return home to see his new-born son.

Most disturbing for the Danes, powerful midfielder Vilfort had also abandoned the finals, under the saddest of circumstances.

Concern had suddenly increased about the condition of his seven-year daughter, Linne, who was being treated in Copenhagen for leukaemia.

His team-mates' sympathies went with him: his place in midfield went to the other Stockholm substitute, Larsen.

And it was Larsen who determined the course of football history when he struck a fine first goal just seven minutes into the match after good work between Andersen and Povlsen.

Denmark might have had a penalty in the 31st minute after a tussle between Perez and Frank — and Frank was close to a goal again seven minutes later.

Appeared

France had fielded what appeared a more adventurous line-up but, rather than talent, all they revealed was bad temper and irritation.

The tournament and the title were receding and they countered with more grit than goals.

Casoni, Boli and Perez were all cautioned in the first half, Deschamps in the second, while Cantona was lucky to escape the wrath of Austrian referee, Hubert Forstinger, after treading all over Jensen's leg early in the second half.

France were not a pretty sight. Even Papin raised a surreptitious elbow in his marker's face, though he also scored a superb goal. Just as in the opening match against Sweden, Papin was granted only one chance, but he capitalised on it brilliantly after a neat back-heel by Durand fooled the Danish defence.

Covered

Goalkeeper Schmeichel appeared to have all the angles covered but Papin, combining precision with power, clipped his shot just beyond the keeper and inside Schmeichel's left-hand post.

France were back in the game but not composed enough to seize the tie.

The only serious succeeding threat to Schmeichel was a Perez free-kick which he stopped comfortably.

Instead it was Denmark who secured the winner. Moller Nielsen, having chosen correctly with Larsen, pulled another rabbit out of his hat by sending on Elstrup as substitute for the tiring Brian Laudrup, after 67 minutes.

Platini's squad were clearly split into cliques

There was more than a suspicion of offside as France gave away possession deep in their own territory but there was no denying the decision with which Elstrup, on the near post, scored from Povlsen's right-wing cross.

The Danes and their travelling army of Roligan fans were united in high spirits at the final whistle.

France were clearly split into three or four cliques which had undermined team spirit and team work. Above all, the Marseille players had spent much of their time off grumbling about back pay and bonuses owed them by the club.

They had even written a formal letter to president Bernard Tapie and asked for French League intervention.

Tapie hit back with a telephone message that he would pay the money due when the team coughed up the £8 million Marseille had lost through their early elimination from the Champions' Cup.

No wonder France lost their way in Sweden. They were not watching the road.

WS

MAN OF THE MATCH

HENRIK LARSEN

HOLLAND V SCOTLAND

Holland leave it late

Hope-wrecking . . . Berkamp slots home Holland's late winner.

Tartan spirit not enough

HOLLAND claimed the first victory of the finals after what was, in the old cliche, a game of two halves. In essence, Holland played their finest football in the first half but scored the decisive goal in a much less impressive second period.

The way the European Champions sliced Scotland's defence apart early on deserved its due reward. But Scotland deserved all credit for making a game of it and refused to be cowed by Holland's reputation, achievement and restated ambition.

At least Holland's first-half display went some way towards satisfying a growing impatience for a touch of the quality and sparkle which the first two matches in the other group had failed to provide.

Hair-raising . . . Rijkaard and McPherson climb high.

HOLLAND 1 SCOTLAND 0

Ref: Bo KARLSSON (Swe)
Att: 35,720
HT: 0-0

KNVB SCORERS

BERGKAMP 76

Hans VAN BREUKELEN (1)	Andy GORAM (1)
Berry VAN AERLE (2)	Stewart McKIMMIE (9)
Ronald KOEMAN (4)	Richard GOUGH (2)
Adri VAN TIGGELEN (3)	Dave McPHERSON (8)
Frank RIJKAARD (8)	Maurice MALPAS (4)
Jan WOUTERS (6) ✹	Stuart McCALL (10)
Rob WITSCHGE (14) 24	Gary McALLISTER (11)
Ruud GULLIT (10)	Paul McSTAY (3)
Dennis BERGKAMP (7) ☆	☆ Brian McCLAIR (6)
Brian ROY (20)	Gordon DURIE (7)
Marco VAN BASTEN (9)	✹ Ally McCOIST (5)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✹ Wim JONK (54 mins)	✹ Kevin GALLACHER (73 mins)
☆ Aron WINTER (85 mins)	☆ Duncan FERGUSON (79 mins)

BY KEIR **RADNEDGE**

Holland came into the finals in an unusually united and buoyant mood with none of those internecine squabbles off the pitch — either between the players or between players and manager. The scenario was almost unreal.

But then the Dutch still harboured bitter memories of Italia '90 and their ambition to make amends very nearly matched their ambition to become the first nation to retain the European title.

A few minor injuries — one to Frank Rijkaard — provided the Dutch media with a discussion point. With Milan's magnificent Italian championship success burning in such bright recent memory, however, the prospects for the Scots were not kind.

Scotland were appearing at the European finals for the first time. Everyone saw them as the weakest team in the strongest group. That recognition also made them dangerous.

They had nothing to lose — and the group contained no deceptively easy minnow to provide the customary Scottish disaster/excuse.

Armed with that knowledge, Scotland gave the first half their best shot. McStay probed and schemed in midfield, covering an awful lot of ground, McCall chased and harried and, at the back, skipper Richard Gough held onto Van Basten — sometimes literally — as if he were a favourite doll.

Scotland deserved all credit for making a game of it and refused to be cowed by Holland's reputation

The risk, of course, was that Scotland would concede Holland time and space for Gullit and Co. to work their marvels. But fortune favours the brave and thus, at the interval, for all the class and technical trickery of the Dutch ensemble, the scoresheet was still blank.

In the meantime the crowd saw Gullit put on a show. Twice in the early minutes he went past the Scottish defence like a ghost.

First Bergkamp's final shot was gathered comfortably by Goram then, from a corner Gullit had forced, Bergkamp glanced a header wide.

It was mostly one-way traffic. McPherson was flagged offside when he appeared deep in the Dutch penalty box but Van Breukelen was never tested.

To be fair, Holland might have made Goram work harder than they did. Twice Gullit lifted his shots too high after some glorious high-speed interpassing. Goram's best save before the interval was in the 39th minute, when he deflected for a corner a vicious tight-angle drive from Rijkaard.

Scotland coach Andy Roxburgh had dropped dark hints in advance that Holland had their weaknesses; Holland's Rinus Michels had made no secret of his intention of using three men at the back.

What neither had gone into were the subtleties of their tactical approach. Scotland used McCall to sit in front of the central defenders and provide a harassing shield; Holland kept only Van Basten up front and used Gullit, Bergkamp and Roy in a pitch-width intermediate position between midfield and the point of attack. While it produced no tangible result in the first half it was clearly an ideal tactical vehicle for players so adept at one-touch football.

But players decide matches rather than tactics and Holland struggled in the second half from the moment Jan Wouters, such an influential engineer, was substituted by Wim Jonk. Wouters had injured an ankle in Holland's last warm-up against France and manager Rinus Michels could not afford to risk further damage.

Scotland put together several attacking flurries. Once McStay saw his shot deflected for a corner with Van Breukelen wrong-footed, then Gough thundered a header wide from Gary McAllister's left-wing cross.

Van Basten was ranging more widely in an effort to escape the stifling Gough but Gullit was brought into play only occasionally now. Clinging to the right-hand touchline, Gullit's role was strikingly reminiscent of four years ago.

But, inevitably, he provided the crucial possession which led to Holland's decisive strike. It was a goal "Made in Milan."

After a corner on the left Gullit, Van Basten and Rijkaard provided the rapid-fire touches which allowed Bergkamp the opportunity to strike home from the edge of the six-yard box.

Bergkamp had taken most of the previous four weeks to recover from the flu which cost him his place in the second leg of Ajax's victorious UEFA Cup Final effort. This goal probably completed his recovery better than any (officially-approved) medicines.

Scotland tried to shake up their attack, bringing on first Gallacher for McCoist, then Ferguson for McClair. But the contest was already over.

Michels and Bergkamp both paid tribue to the Scots' spirit and ability afterwards. They had certainly looked far, far better in defeat than England, the previous evening, had looked in gaining a draw.

MAN OF THE MATCH
RUUD GULLIT

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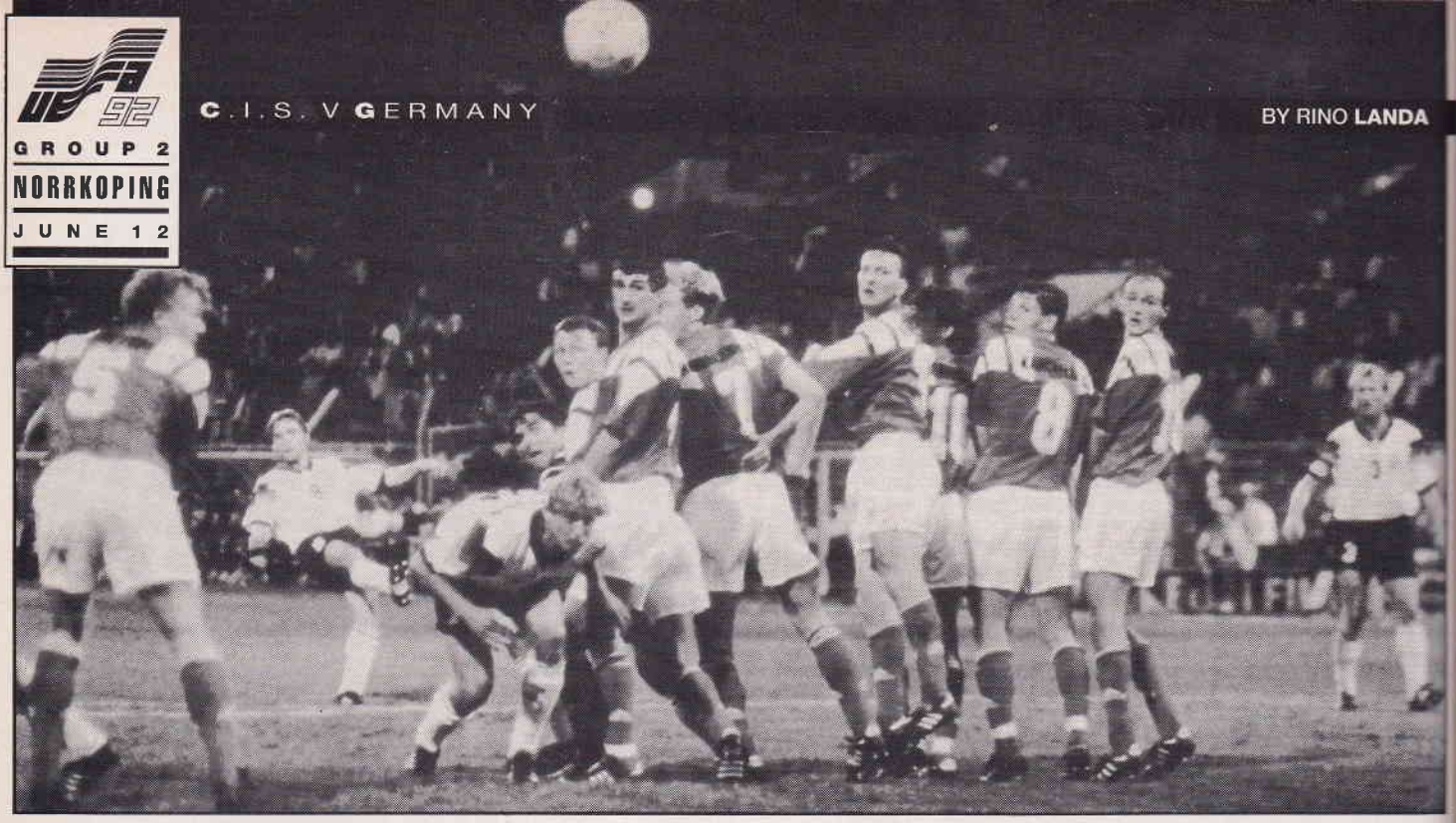
C.I.S. V GERMANY

BY RINO LANDA



Free-kick . . . Hassler curls his shot round the CIS wall for the equaliser.

Hassler strike saves hapless Germany . . .

but Bishovets and his men make them look like tactical novices

C I S 1 GERMANY 1

Ref: **Gerard BIGUET** (Fra)
Att: **17,410**
HT: **0-0**

SCORERS

DOBROVOLSKI 62 (pen)	HASSLER 89

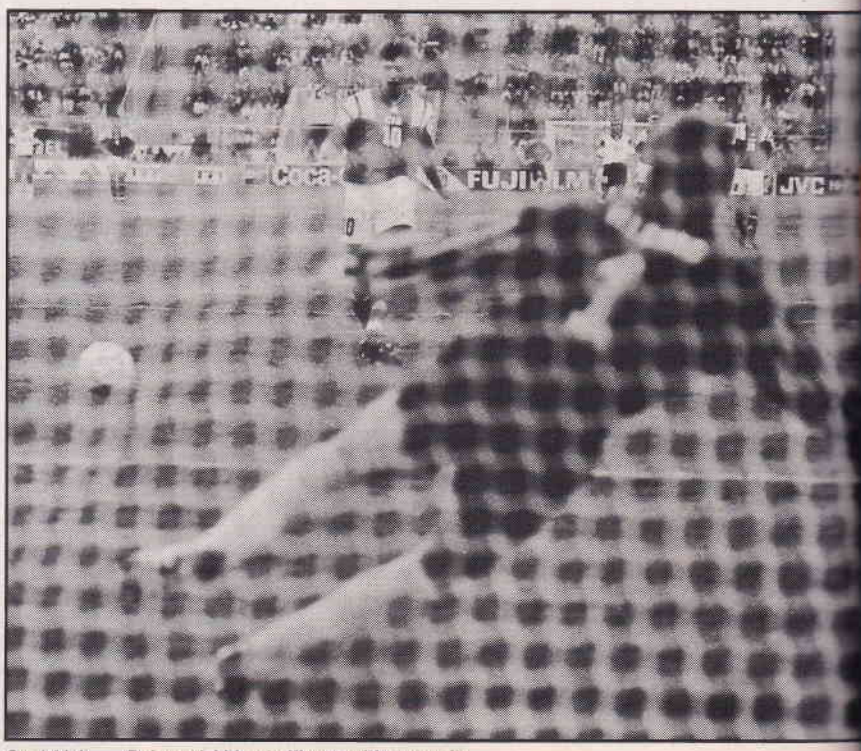
Dimitri **KHARIN** (1) 73	Bodo **ILLGNER** (1)
Oleg **KUZNETSOV** (5)	Manfred **BINZ** (5)
Andrei **CHERNISHOV** (2)	☆ Stefan **REUTER** (2)
Akhrik **TSVEIBA** (4) 85	Jurgen **KOHLER** (4)
Andrei **KANCHELSKIS** (8)	Guido **BUCHWALD** (6)
Alexei **MIKHAILICHENKO** (7)	Andreas **BREHME** (3)
Vladimir **LIUTI** (14) ✹	Thomas **HASSLER** (8)
Dimitri **KUZNETSOV** (16)	Stefan **EFFENBURG** (17)
Igor **SHALIMOV** (6) ☆	Thomas **DOLL** (10)
Igor **KOLIVANOV** (15)	✹ Rudi **VOLLER** (9)
Igor **DOBROVOLSKI** (10) 67	Karlheinz **RIEDLE** (11)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✹ Viktor ONOPKO (46 mins)	✹ Andy MOLLER (46 mins)
☆ Andrei IVANOV (81 mins)	☆ Jurgen KLINSMANN (83 mins)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	1	1	0	0	1	0	2
CIS	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Germany	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Scotland	1	0	0	1	0	1	0



Spot-kick . . . Dobrovolski beats Illgner with a penalty.

WORLD Cup-holders Germany saved their first-match skins courtesy of a superbly-struck free kick by Thomas Hassler.

But everything else went wrong. Skipper Rudi Voller was ruled out of the rest of the finals by a broken left arm while the Commonwealth of Independent States made the Germans look like tactical novices — as well as providing an overdue reminder of their own magnificent tradition in the European Championship (albeit under a different name and flag).

The Germans certainly appeared to have underestimated them. But then, Germany were the bookies' favourites and not without reason. After all, two years earlier much the same line-up had won the World Cup. Injured skipper Lothar Matthaus would be a serious loss, but the German squad overflowed with ambitious contenders for his commanding role in midfield.

More intriguing doubts surrounded the tactical planning of manager Berti Vogts. In the qualifiers Germany had frequently appeared too cautious and, in the warm-ups they had appeared creatively fragile in attack.

Firepower

Surely, though, they possessed more than enough firepower to deal with their first opponents in Sweden. The talent of the CIS footballers was undisputed but morale was subject to conjecture and a question mark hung over team spirit among players whose newly-emerging nations would shortly go their own football way.

In the event the CIS rose to the occasion not only technically but tactically and produced a level of footballing sophistication which was beyond the world champions.

CIS coach Anatoli Bishovets had swung the basis for team selection back to Moscow after more than 15 years' reliance on the men of Kiev. But if he found the majority of his players from a different source to managerial predecessor Valeri Lobanovski he showed that he had learned his match planning from his old mentor in the Ukraine.

Germany's relentless first-half pressure obscured what Bishovets was doing. The light did not dawn on Vogts until more than an hour had gone — and by then it was very nearly too late.

The first German chance was a high header by Karlheinz Riedle from a Hassler corner after 12 minutes. Then Guido Buchwald advanced only to see his shot swing wide of Kharin's goal.

The match soon developed into a full-blooded physical scrap. Stefan Effenberg, preferred to Mathias Sammer in the Matthaus role, played with unusual concentration and did not shirk any of the physical contact.

Voller broke his arm in a 20th-minute tangle with Oleg Kuznetsov and bravely played on until half-time. Indeed, in the 39th minute he was not too far over with a header to another Hassler cross.

Then a right-foot drive from Brehme was comfortably fielded by Kharin, thus sending the teams in at half-time with the scoresheet blank.

The CIS had weathered the storm successfully but they had also worried the Germans with their tactics. In effect they played with one winger (Dobrovolski) and without a central striker. Kolivanov played further forward than his midfield colleagues but that was all. The CIS thus hunted in packs in both midfield and attack. The German back four (Reuter, Kohler, Buchwald and Brehme) were confused by the absence of anyone to mark and Binz, the sweeper, was effectively cut out of the game.

CIS rose to the occasion not only technically but tactically and produced a level of sophistication which was beyond the world champions

The Germans were, to all intents and purposes, playing with ten men.

The second-half absence of Voller only exacerbated the problem since Vogts replaced him with a midfielder, Andy Moller, and contented his attacking needs by pushing Doll forward.

Not until Jurgen Klinsmann was brought on as a 63rd-minute substitute for Stefan Reuter did the Germans appear to twig how they had been conned.

Even then Klinsmann's arrival was only provoked by the CIS having just seized the lead.

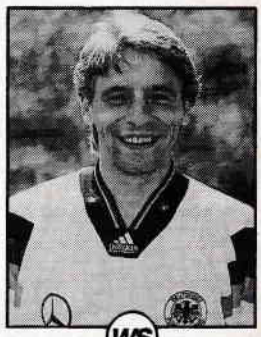
Kanchelskis crossed from the right, Reuter fell all over Dobrovolski and the winger got up to tuck away the penalty.

Dobrovolski might have had a freak second goal in the 75th minute when a sky-high centre from the right bounced back into play off the top of the German crossbar.

Klinsmann's presence and the ebb of the game simplified matters for the Germans. They threw away all pretence at pattern, shape and creative ingenuity and played up-and-under football. Most of the "up" came from crosses and free-kicks by Brehme for which Doll, Riedle and Klinsmann were "under" — all in vain until a minute from time.

Then Klinsmann knocked the ball down into Doll's path and he was pushed by Dimitri Kuznetsov on the edge of the box. Klinsmann stood at the end of the wall, Hassler aimed at his head and, when Klinsmann ducked, Kharin saw the shot too late to stop it from curling into the net.

Germany's celebrations were born of relief. But it was Holland, the only undisputed group leaders after the first round of matches, who had the last laugh on this Swedish Friday evening.

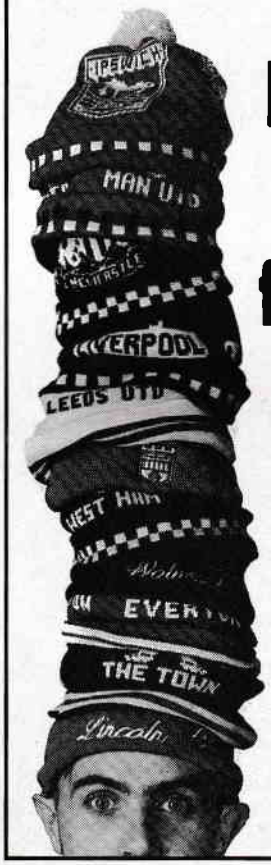


WS

MAN OF THE MATCH

THOMAS HASSLER

Bad break . . . Rudi Voller's European Championship ends in agony with a broken arm after a collision with Oleg Kuznetsov.



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SCOTLAND V GERMANY

Magnificent failure

Scotland so close to causing a shock

Spot the ball . . . Hassler shoots as McPherson tries to intercept.

BY JONATHAN **SHALLARD**

SCOTLAND 0 GERMANY 2

Ref: **Guy GOETHALS** (Bel)
Att: **17,638**
HT: **0-1**

SCORERS

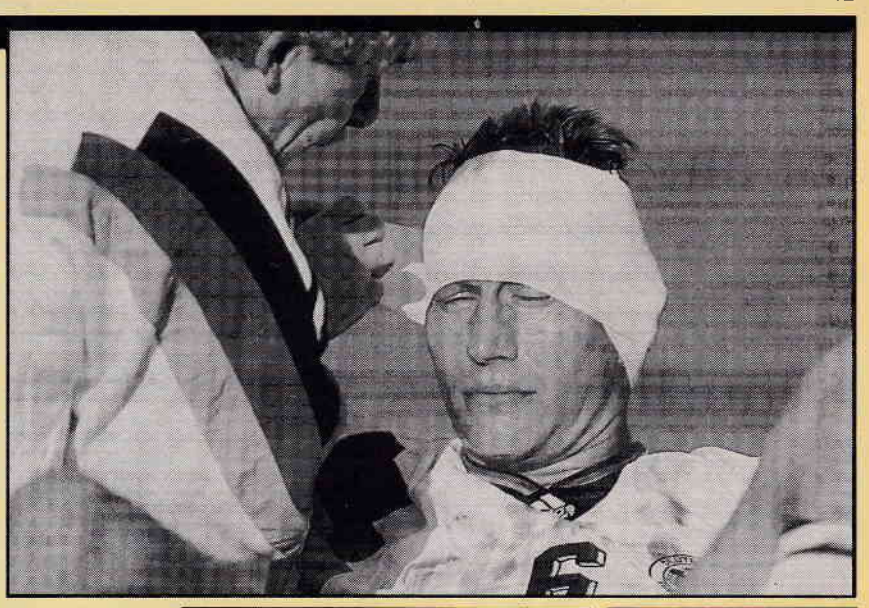
RIEDLE 28, EFFENBERG 46

Andy GORAM (1)	Bodo ILLGNER (1)
Stewart McKIMMIE (9)	Jurgen KOHLER (4)
Richard GOUGH (2)	Manfred BINZ (5)
Dave McPHERSON (8)	Guido BUCHWALD (6)
Maurice MALPAS (4)	85 Thomas HASSLER (8)
Gary McALLISTER (11)	Stefan EFFENBERG (17)
Paul McSTAY (3)	Andy MOLLER (7)
Stuart McCALL (10) 90	Matthias SAMMER (16)
Brian McCLAIR (6)	Andy BREHME (3)
Ally McCOIST (5) ☆	Jurgen KLINSMANN (18)
Gordon DURIE (7) ✹	✹ Karlheinz RIEDLE (11)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✹ Pat NEVIN (54 mins)	✹ ☆ Stefan REUTER (68 mins)
☆ Kevin GALLACHER (69 mins)	☆ Michael SCHULZ (74 mins)



Spot of bother . . . Buchwald was forced to leave the pitch after an accidental clash of heads with Gough.

Spot the scorer . . . Riedle hits the first goal as Gough clings on to Klinsmann.

MAN OF THE MATCH
BODO ILLGNER

SCOTLAND went out of the European Championship and the depleted Germans regained their competitive equilibrium in a fine contest which was a credit to the spirit and ambition of both teams.

German coach Berti Vogts, knowing victory was essential, came off the defensive fence by installing Jurgen Klinsmann as replacement for Rudi Voller, who had broken an arm, and by dropping right-back Stefan Reuter in favour of Andy Moller as an attacking midfielder.

Scotland boss Andy Roxburgh stuck by the starting eleven who had performed so defiantly against title-holders Holland.

Reflected

Few changes in personnel, perhaps, but major changes in attitude — changes reflected in the all-action start.

Illgner, who had a splendid match, was stretched to tip over a close-range Richard Gough header after two minutes; another two minutes and Thomas Hassler rifled a centre across the face of the Scottish goal just ahead of the inrushing Klinsmann and Riedle.

It has been no secret for a year or more that Germany are vulnerable early in a match and this occasion was no exception. Illgner blocked a McAllister effort, then deflected a McClair attempt for a corner. McAllister fired narrowly wide in the 10th minute, then McPherson should have done better with an effort at the far post after Gough had drawn away the defenders.

But, if Scotland had by far the better of the first 20 minutes, it was the Germans who turned the match on its head. First Klinsmann was unlucky when Scottish keeper Goram stopped a superb header with his ankles. But Klinsmann played a decisive role when Germany took the lead in the 29th minute.

Moller linked with Sammer, Klinsmann shielded the arriving pass deep in the penalty box, allowing Riedle to strike an unstoppable shot beyond Goram.

Less than two minutes into the second half and Germany were two goals to the good. No immediate danger appeared on the cards when Stefan Effenberg shaped to cross from the right. But the ball clipped the challenging boot of Malpas and looped in a fatal parabola up and then down inside the far post.

Goram slipped as he turned back towards the flight of the ball but he would have performed remarkably to keep it out.

Two goals behind and all but out of the finals . . . many teams would have packed up. Not Scotland. If anything, they fought even harder — strengthened by the will o' the wisp arrival of Pat Nevin to attack the Germans with his wriggling pace.

It was end-to-end stuff. Moller shot against Goram's right-hand post in the 57th minute, Illgner saved well from Gough after a corner, then Hassler shot against Goram's left-hand post.

Germany brought on Reuter to support a tottering defence.

But after only four minutes he gashed his head in a clash with McCall and had to be substituted by Schulz. Less than another ten minutes and Buchwald was similarly bloodied and carried from the action.

Nine minutes was very nearly too much for the Germans to survive with ten men.

Hassler succumbed to the pressure and was booked for bringing down McPherson. Then Gallacher, substituting for McCoist, headed badly wide.

Two goals behind and all but out of the finals . . . many teams would have packed up. Not Scotland

Reward

Scotland's Tartan Army sang: "Give us a goal." But Germany were in no mood to concede even consolation prizes. They took away the points and a one-goal advantage over Holland.

Scotland's reward was merely another entry in their Book of Magnificent Failures.

HOLLAND V CIS

BY KEIR RADNEDGE

Just about right

Classy Kharin stops the Dutch

HOLLAND'S confidence of gliding comfortably into the semi-finals of Euro '92 with a Group Two game to spare was shaken by rivals with a point to prove. Four years earlier the CIS, in their old guise as the Soviet Union, lost 2-0 to Holland in the Final. The Soviets blamed defeat on the suspension of Oleg Kuznetsov upsetting their defensive tactics.

This time, with the Rangers defender back in place, they proved the point to their own satisfaction, at least, with a holding operation which stifled most of the life out of Holland's Milan-based attack.

Holland were unchanged from the side who beat Scotland. The CIS were deprived of the injured Liuti and Shalimov and used the need for change to strengthen attack. Perhaps "strengthen" is overstating the case. Bringing in Benfica's Sergei Yuran increasing their attacking options to the power of one and two halves — Korneyev and Dobrovolski sharing the "hole" behind him.

Assigned

Everyone else was specifically assigned defensive roles. Even Andrei Kanchelskis, something of a free spirit on the wing at Manchester United, was converted by coach Anatoli Bishovets into a full-back for the night — his duty being to sit on Brian Roy.

Holland's two best early chances both stemmed from individual mistakes. In the tenth minute Akhrik Tsveiba gave the ball away to Dennis Bergkamp in front of the penalty box but goalkeeper Dimitri Kharin dived at the Ajax striker's feet to save.

Then, in the 38th minute Sergei Aleinikov tripped Frank Rijkaard instead of tackling in the sort of position from which Ronald Koeman won the European Cup for Barcelona a month earlier. This time, however, his drive flew inches wide of the far post.

The CIS posed an occasional threat of their own on the break to keep their fans dreaming. Yuran more than justified his recall with his threatening speed on the break. Thus he twice embarrassed the Dutch defence, testing goalkeeper Hans Van Breukelen in the ninth and 28th minutes.

Holland had sent out an appropriate eight members of their successful Class of '88 while the CIS lined up but two, Aleinikov and Mikhailichenko. All ten were still there after the interval with no half-time substitutions.

Two minutes into the second half a close-range header from Frank Rijkaard forced a fine stop from Kharin. Then Kharin was saved when Bergkamp, dashing for goal, momentarilty lost control.

But the keeper deserved all the credit in the 63rd minute when he acrobatically tipped a Van Basten header over the bar from a Witschge cross. No wonder Kharin claimed later that this had been the finest game of his career.

As time went on and both substitutes and yellow cards began to increase. Yuran, Aleinikov, Gullit and Bergkamp all hobbled out of the action while Wouters was cautioned for clattering Kanchelskis.

The CIS proved a point to their own satisfaction, at least, with a holding operation which stifled most of the life out of Holland's Milan-based attack

Pulling power . . . Van Tiggelen gets to grips with Yuran's shirt as he tries to stop the CIS striker.

MAN OF THE MATCH
DIMITRI KHARIN

Yet Holland might still have won, courtesy of the most controversial move of the match. Wouters crossed from the right and Van Basten "stole" in behind the defence to head into the net.

Television confirmed the goal was good — that Van Basten had been well onside when Wouters released the ball. But the quickness of Van Basten's strike deceived the linesman's eye.

Disappointed

He flagged, referee Mikkelsen was virtually bound to accept that judgment . . . and the game ended at 0-0.

Holland were now level on three points with Germany, whom they had yet to meet. But the CIS knew that last-match victory over Scotland could well see them qualify, too. Holland may have been disappointed with the draw. But, in terms of competitive drama, the result was just right.

HOLLAND 0 C I S 0

KNVB

Ref: **Jose Rosa Dos SANTOS** (Por)
Att: **34,440**
HT: **0-0**

Hans VAN BREUKELEN (1)	Dimitri KHARIN (1)
Berry VAN AERLE (2)	Andrei CHERNISHOV (2)
Ronald KOEMAN (4) 25	21 Akhrik TSVEIBA (4)
Adri VAN TIGGELEN (3)	Oleg KUZNETSOV (5)
Frank RIJKAARD (8)	Andrei KANCHELSKIS (8)
Jan WOUTERS (6) 67	Alexei MIKHAILICHENKO (7)
Rob WITSCHGE (14)	✹ Sergei ALEINIKOV (9)
Ruud GULLIT (10) ✹	Viktor ONOPKO (18)
Dennis BERGKAMP (7) ☆	Igor DOBROVOLSKI (10)
Brian ROY (20)	Igor KOLIVANOV (15)
Marco VAN BASTEN (9)	☆ Sergei YURAN (11)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✹ John VAN'T SCHIP (70 mins)	✹ Dimitri KUZNETSOV (56 mins)
☆ Eric VISCAAL (79 mins)	☆ Sergei KIRIAKOV (64 mins)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	2	1	1	0	3	1	3
Holland	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
CIS	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Scotland	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

The KEIR RADNEDGE COMMENTARY FROM SWEDEN

Keep counting those foreign bodies

Excluded . . . Liverpool keeper Bruce Grobbelaar.

ALL European Community clubs — and that includes those in England — will need to count their foreigners carefully next season, not only in Europe but in domestic competition.

This is the price for keeping at arm's length the European Community's regulations governing the freedom of movement of labour. "Foreigners" means all players who do not qualify to play for the national association of the League in question.

In England that includes all past, present and potential Scottish, Welsh and Irish internationals. UEFA spokesman Rudi Rothenbuhler said: "We appreciate this will mean some problems but all the FAs from EC countries have no choice. UEFA must enforce it. It's part of the deal."

From the start of the new season in August the Arsenals, Liverpools and Manchester Uniteds must ensure that no more than five "foreigners" are out on the pitch — two of whom MUST have played three years in England at youth (under-19) level.

Arsenal, with only a smattering of non-English players (such as O'Leary and Limpar) will have few problems. But it won't be as easy, for example, at Anfield (Grobbelaar, Molby, Saunders, Rush, Houghton, Whelan, Nicol etc) or Old Trafford (Schmeichel, McClair, Hughes, Kanchelskis, Giggs, Blackmore, etc).

Development

Last season Liverpool excluded Grobbelaar from European ties because of these rules and United left out Schmeichel on one occasion for the same reason. UEFA are not, however, laying down the penalties for managers who can't count.

Rothenbuhler said: "Teams could be fined or have points deducted. But that is up to the FA to decide."

This development is a long-term threat to such nations as Wales and the Irish Republic, who have come to lean heavily on the "granny" clause. This allows players with a grandparent from another country to opt for international status with that country.

Many run-of-the-mill League players have opted for Irish or Welsh status in the belief that they stood little chance of playing for England. Now that being Irish or Welsh could be a positive hindrance to their bread-and-butter club careers, how many will be prepared to follow that international path?

PRELIMINARY rounds are inevitable in all three of the 1992-93 European club competitions now that the extra countries from the former Soviet sphere are involved (the rump state of Yugoslavia remains excluded, of course, while United Nations' sanctions are in force).

The Faroes will enter all three competitions and Israel will be represented in the Champions' Cup and the Cup-winners' Cup.

Liechtenstein can now enter a team in the Cup-winners' Cup, and Wales, assuming they sort themselves out, will be represented in all three competitions from next year. Next season's UEFA Cup complement should include four teams each from Italy, Germany and Spain and three each from Belgium, France, Portugal, Holland and Scotland (a late reprieve for Celtic). The draw takes place in Geneva on July 15.

Help for worthy causes

AT EACH match of Euro '92 an award went to the player providing the most memorable moment of action. The prize carried £500 in the group matches, £650 in the semi-finals and £1,750 in the final — the cash provided by sponsors MasterCard for the chosen players to donate to charity.

Each team settled on one particular cause. England, naturally, chose the Leukaemia Research Fund; France chose families of victims of the Bastia stadium disaster; Holland chose Action for Hunger in Africa; Scotland the Scottish Chapter of the Variety Club of Great Britain; Germany a village for orphans in Mexico which they adopted originally at the 1986 World Cup; the CIS chose Children of Chernobyl.

Denmark and Sweden, however, both chose relief funds for victims of the fighting in Croatia and Bosnia. Yugoslavia were absent, but not forgotten by the players.

YUGOSLAVIA *might never have qualified, such was the total absence of official consideration for their plight.*

At the very least someone might have made a formal announcement of regret, at one of the set-piece events, that war had separated them from the sporting mainstream.

Just about every published preview of the finals was caught out by the late entry of Denmark as Slav substitutes — WORLD SOCCER, unfortunately, among them.

In next month's issue, however, we will produce two pages to add into our Guide to Euro '92 which was presented free with the June issue.

Included . . . Dutch maestro Johan Cruyff.

The winner: Master with 8 from 11

REGULAR readers will recall Eurocard-MasterCard running a competition among the media to select an All-Time European Championship XI. They also offered prizes for *WORLD SOCCER* readers whose selections came close to the media version.

The official team was named at a reception in Gothenburg on the eve of the Final. It is: *Lev Yashin (Sov Union) — Berti Vogts (W Germany), Franz Beckenbauer (W Germany), Franco Baresi (Italy), Giacinto Facchetti (Italy) — Michel Platini (France), Bobby Charlton (England), Lothar Matthaus (W Germany), Gunter Netzer (W Germany) — Johan Cruyff (Holland), Marco Van Basten (Holland).*

Not one of you named THE team and the closest was Akimsemola Akintimode of Akure, Nigeria, who got eight right. He included Rijkaard, Gullit and Muller instead of Baresi, Netzer and Cruyff.

He and six runners-up (D. Coulson of Weddington, Warwickshire; Stuart Bolton of Heaton Mersey, Cheshire; Frank Harrison of Darwen, Lancashire; S. Clark of Glenrothes, Fife; Victoria Jones of Liverpool and Bronislav Tzusevich of Minsk) will be receiving their prizes in due course with our congratulations.

The lads will soon learn

FROM July 25, the goalkeeper must not handle a team-mate's pass back — unless the ball has been headed or chested.

The International Board voted in that change to the regulations at their May meeting in Wales and it will be fascinating to see whether it has the intended effect of cutting down time-wasting.

My feeling is that, just as with the other rule changes aimed at goalkeepers in the last 25 years, players will soon find ways around it. The change will also encourage the long-ball game as an expedient way of putting defenders under pressure.

OTHER RULE CHANGES:

- goal kicks can be taken from either side of the six-yard box.
- referees sending off players for a second yellow-card offence must show the second yellow card before brandishing the red.
- players without shinguards or boots will be ordered from the pitch to put them on.
- substitutes at major championships can be chosen from the entire squad (a change enacted already at Euro '92).

Like fathers . . .

HOOLIGANS, like the poor, it seems, are always with us. Malmo and Stockholm saw the English at work (with some Swedish help) and Gothenburg was German territory.

The scene in Gothenburg station square after the Holland match in Group Two — riot squad, loudspeakers, mounted police and dogs — was reminiscent of German cities during the student unrest of Easter, 1968.

The difference was, the trouble-makers were the children of those 1960s' student rebels. UEFA president Lennart Johansson suggested that England's hosting of the 1996 European finals might be at risk. Surely the reverse is true: the experience of the English authorities in containing and controlling hooliganism makes England the safest place to hold the finals.

UEFA will pronounce at a later stage on the Swedish troubles.

Typical . . . the scene after a visit by hooligan fans in Gothenburg.

BASILE BOLI (above) will, I hope, be handed an exemplary punishment by the French federation for the butt which laid out England's Stuart Pearce.

UEFA's disciplinary commission refused to accept an ITV tape of the incident on the grounds of precedent and equality under the referee (who had been unsighted).

I understand that Worldmark, the London company making the official movie, have unimpeachable "head-to-head" film of the incident. I hope UEFA sanction its inclusion in the film — plus suitable comment!

Shoot-out nearly scrapped

PENALTY shoot-outs were very nearly scrapped in the middle of Euro '92. UEFA delegates and officials were seriously discussing rewriting the regulations in mid-event to replace shoot-outs, if the semi-finals were drawn after extra time, followed by sudden death.

We have been advocating that course for a year now and it is gratifying to see officialdom recognising the increasing credibility gap being created by the plethora of shoot-outs.

The first suggestion was that sudden death would replace shoot-outs if all four semi-finalist managers agreed. However UEFA's executive committee later felt — sensibly, I think — that to mess around with rules and regulations in the middle of an event would set a potentially dangerous precedent.

May we yet hope that UEFA give sudden-death the green light for next season's European club competitions?

Terrible . . . Marco Van Basten agonises after missing a shoot-out penalty in the semi-final.

An insight into murky politics

LORDS of the Rings, a "lid-lifting" book about the Olympic Games which attracted a welter of publicity as well as the stated disapproval of IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch, is NOT about athletics.

Its subject is money and power in international sport. Indeed, the early part of the book (published by Simon and Schuster) describes how Joao Havelange became FIFA president and used his association with Horst Dassler, of adidas fame and fortune, to revolutionise the finances of international sport.

All this is not new and has been presented previously in publications in Germany and Britain — most notably in English by *The Daily Mail's* Neil Wilson in his book The Politics of Sport.

Where Lords of the Rings scores, however, is that the material recounted by joint authors Vyv Simson and Andrew Jennings is built around Patrick Nally's personal recollections.

And Nally was the man who, on Dassler's behalf, "sold" football's potential as a promotional vehicle to the American and Japanese multi-nationals. Some of the content — notably the background on Samaranch — is presented with such heavy-handed "spin" that it puts the reader's back up.

But as a general insight into the murky world of sports politics, the book makes fascinating reading. More specifically, it will be interesting to see how those old IOC team-mates, Samaranch and Havelange, resolve the continuing dispute over the nature of the Olympic Games soccer tournament.

German Olympic president Willi Daume says this year's under-23 event is a one-off. Watch this space.

Topical . . . IOC's Samaranch (above) and FIFA's Havelange (below).

The cook first, commerce nowhere

JON SMITH, master of commercial opportunity for England, was embarrassingly omitted from the official accreditations list submitted to the Swedish organisers of Euro '92.

England's cook, who hardly needed the access to which Smith is accustomed, WAS on the list — empowered to go freely wherever he liked (and journalists would have loved).

FA officials denied the oversight derived in any way from manager Graham Taylor's policy of keeping as many Swedish miles as possible between players and their agents/advisers/associates/lawyers.

RINUS MICHELS did get his way, after all. Holland's manager had proposed a new formula for the Fair Play Award at Euro '92. Instead of merely counting disciplinary points, UEFA instituted a system based on discipline, fan behaviour and general attitude on the pitch (as judged by a panel of officials, former players such as Northern Ireland's Pat Jennings and coaches such as Belgium's Guy Thys).

I remain unconvinced that sportsmanship can be codified — and with adult professionals it may be too late, anyway. But this was certainly a more realistic stab at the idea.

BERNARD SHAW'S observation that England and America are divided by the same language was perfectly illustrated at the press conference after Sweden v France.

An American asked: "Can Mr Platini describe his frustration at seeing his team shut down in the first half and can Mr Eriksson describe for us the scoring play?"

Rudi Rothenbuhler, UEFA's multi-lingual Swiss press chief acting as MC, snapped back: "I don't understand your question. Please translate it into English."

EURO '92 had barely left town than Gothenburg was gearing up for an even bigger football event — the Gothia Cup.

Some 25,000 (!) football-mad youngsters from all over the world are expected for one of the biggest annual sporting events in the Nordic region.

The boys and girls between 11 and 19 will compete in 3,000 matches on more than 60 pitches in and around Gothenburg. Hopefully they won't suffer from the first-match nerves which affected Europe's highly-paid professional superstars.

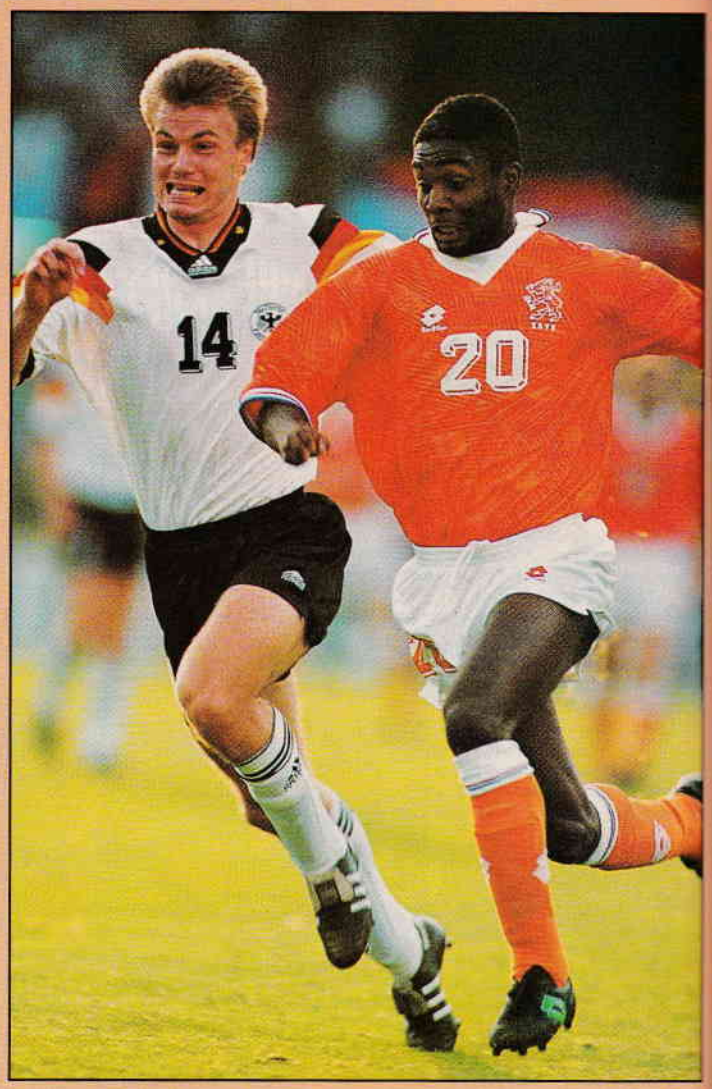
BY KEIR RADNEDGE

GROUP 2
GOTHENBURG
JUNE 18

Savouring . . . Van Breukelen, Gullit and Rijkaard enjoy their moment of victory (right).

Sprinting . . . Aron Winter and Thomas Helmer in a race for posession (far right).

Soaring . . . Jurgen Klinsmann climbs above Frank De Boer to score Germany's goal (below).



Dutch artistry has Germany gasping

Rijkaard's switch proves to be the master move

HOLLAND v GERMANY is one of the great soccer duels. As with England v Scotland and Austria v Hungary there are reasons beyond soccer itself.

The voluble Dutch fans made their feelings perfectly clear during the national anthems. They whistled and jeered the German anthem so effectively that the German team "broke" to limber up before the anthem was over.

Not that this did them a lot of good. In what was probably the quality match of the finals thus far, Holland scored a deserved victory over injury-hit opponents. The irony was that both teams progressed to the semi-finals — Holland as group winners, Germany as runners-up — because the CIS were losing by 3-0, simultaneously, to Scotland in Norrkoping.

Forced

Holland were forced into one change. Van Aerle had hurt his right knee against the CIS and failed a fitness test on the morning of the game. De Boer stepped in on the left of the three-man defence with Van Tiggelen switching across to become Koeman's right-hand man.

The Germans also were forced into a left-right switch. Buchwald and Reuter were both ruled out after their head-banging efforts against Scotland.

Frontzeck returned for his first international in years but, being entirely left-sided, that meant Brehme moving across from left to right — where he had to mark a winger, Roy, for almost the first time in memory.

Helmer replaced Sammer in midfield with the duty of sitting on Bergkamp.

All Berti Vogts's defensive planning was, however, wrecked within two minutes. Van Basten was fouled by Kohler in what used to be known as the inside-right position, Koeman floated his free-kick beyond the penalty spot and Rijkaard's header looped over Illgner, caught in no man's land, and dropped into the bottom corner of the net.

In the eighth minute Van Basten had a drive blocked on the edge of the six-yard box before Holland extended their lead in the 14th. A free-kick in a similar position was, this time, only tapped by Koeman and Witschge struck a low drive past the wall and just inside Illgner's left-hand post.

Germany were not in the same game. In creative terms they barely existed and their defence gave Holland the sort of time and space around the penalty box which deserved to have been punished more severely.

Rattled

A Witschge corner was headed on by Rijkaard but Gullit, after chesting the ball down, fired too high. Then Van Basten rattled the bar with a thrilling volley after possibly the best move of the match, with successive passes strung together by Koeman, Van Tiggelen, Rijkaard and Roy. Roy shot just wide after being sent in by De Boer, a Van Tiggelen shot was blocked and Rijkaard had a drive parried for a corner by Illgner.

In all this time the Germans managed only the occasional raid. Hassler had one early effort blocked then a Klinsmann shot was deflected for a corner on the half-hour by Van Breukelen.

The interval mood in the two camps was very different. Holland, according to manager Michels, congratulated themselves on a job well done and acknowledged that the second half would be tougher, that the Germans would fight back with all the mental and physical strength which makes them such redoubtable opponents, no matter what the occasion. Vogts was not such a happy man, of course. As he told his players: "The only good thing about the first half is the score from Norrkoping."

Scotland were winning 2-0, a development which was sinking the CIS and meant that the Gothenburg losers would still enter the semi-finals.

Vogts, while always confident that

Scotland would turn over the CIS, was not prepared to rely entirely on them. Thus he took off the wastefully inept sweeper Binz, pulled Helmer back and sent on Sammer in midfield.

Too late again, it seemed, Vogts had seen the creative light. Certainly the Germans came close to turning the match around. Van Breukelen saved from Hassler at the expense of a corner in the 47th minute and six minutes later another corner was headed decisively home by the ever-persistent Klinsmann. When Rijkaard headed a Brehme cross against his own bar, Michels acted.

De Boer was increasingly unhappy at being consistently pressured in the air by the Brehme-Klinsmann combination. Thus Michels took him off, switched Rijkaard ("Our best header of the ball," according to Michels) into defence and sent on Winter in midfield.

The switch proved effective in both defence and attack. With less than 20 minutes remaining Winter escaped Frontzeck down the left and chipped in a perfect short cross for Bergkamp to head Holland two goals clear once more.

As Michels said: "After that, the rest of the match was routine. But we do not think we have seen the last of Germany. We always thought we would meet them again in the Final.

'We do not think we have seen the last of Germany'

I see no reason to change my mind. They showed in the second half just what tough opponents they always are."

Michels described himself as "a happy man, a very satisfied man."

He joked with the press about his substitutions, directed a gentle jibe at critics in the Dutch media and dismissed questions about next rivals Denmark because "I want to enjoy having reached the semi-finals first. We will think about Denmark later."

The European champions appeared well on course to retain their title.

WS

MAN OF THE MATCH
MARCO VAN BASTEN

HOLLAND 3 GERMANY 1

Ref: **Pier-Luigi PAIRETTO** (Ita)
Att: **37,725**
HT: **2-0**

KNVB

RIJKAARD 2, WITSCHGE 14, BERGKAMP 71

KLINSMANN 53

Hans VAN BREUKELEN (1)	Bodo ILLGNER (1)
Adri VAN TIGGELEN (3)	Andy BREHME (3)
Ronald KOEMAN (4)	50 Jurgen KOHLER (4)
Frank DE BOER (17) ✸	✸ Manfred BINZ (5)
Frank RIJKAARD (8)	Michael FRONTZECK (15)
Jan WOUTERS (6)	Thomas HASSLER (8)
Rob WITSCHGE (14)	Stefan EFFENBERG (17)
Ruud GULLIT (10)	Thomas HELMER (14)
Dennis BERGKAMP (7) ☆	Andy MOLLER (7)
Brian ROY (20)	Jurgen KLINSMANN (18)
Marco VAN BASTEN (9)	☆ Karlheinz RIEDLE (11)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✸ Aron WINTER (61 mins) ✸ Matthias SAMMER (46 mins)
☆ Peter BOSZ (87 mins) ☆ Thomas DOLL (76 mins)

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SCOTLAND V C.I.S.

BY JONATHAN SHALLARD

So long Sweden . . . coach Andy Roxburgh (left) and captain Richard Gough salute Scotland's Tartan Army in Norrkoping.

SCOTLAND secured a victory to take home with them as consolation, yet they achieved it with perhaps their least convincing performance.

Two early goals, each owing more than a little to good fortune, sent them into a decisive lead against a CIS side who, though needing a win to qualify for the semi-finals, never looked likely to achieve it.

Indeed, after that awful start, the CIS never looked as if they believed in their own prospects either.

Manager Anatoli Bishovets was gloomy about the injury situation. Shalimov was missing from midfield and Tsveiba was out of defence through suspension.

Scotland, already out of the running for a semi-final place, brought in Tommy Boyd at left-back for Malpas and started with Gallacher up front in place of Durie.

Scotland took the lead after only six minutes. A McAllister corner on the right was half-cleared, McPherson regained possession and gave McStay the chance to hit a low 25-yard drive through a ruck of defenders.

Kharin saw the ball late, dived to his left and did not see the ball again until it was in the net — via the post and then the back of his head!

Requiem, not Ode To Joy

Soviet era ends with a fine Scotland victory

Reluctant

The CIS inter-passed their way forward but found Scotland's defenders reluctant to grant either space or time.

When one brief opening presented itself, after 15 minutes, Onopko sent a snap shot safely over the top.

Scotland pushed forward again. Unlike the Germans and Dutch before them, they had no interest in becoming involved in the tactical ballet with which the CIS traditionally like to entice their opponents.

Aleinikov mistimed a back-pass under pressure, Scotland seized possession and McClair's 25-yard drive was deflected beyond Kharin by Tchadadze. Remarkably, that was McClair's first goal for his country in 26 matches.

The CIS dominated possession for most of the rest of the first half with skipper Mikhail-ichenko playing much further forward in their previous two matches. But, out of practice around the goal area perhaps, his finishing touch had deserted him when he slipped through the middle in the 24th minute.

Scots had no interest in becoming involved in a tactical ballet

Yuran was similarly off target ten minutes later while McClair, just before the interval, was wide with a drive from a similar distance to his goal.

The CIS took off Aleinikov and Kiriakov at half-time and moved the ball around sweetly but without penetration or belief. Scotland, looking tired now, brought on McInally for McCoist to bolster midfield and hold their two-goal advantage.

To all intents and purposes, the contest was over. Scotland secured a three-goal lead they hardly deserved with a McAllister penalty after Nevin, their other substitute, was tripped.

Scotland went home to celebrate a brave campaign. The CIS went home, instead, to dissolution.

This, almost certainly, was the last international for the nation soccer used to know and respect as the Soviet Union. In future Russia, Ukraine, Georgia and Byelorussia — all of whom provided players to the CIS effort at Euro '92 — will go their own separate ways.

A requiem might have been a more appropriate anthem for the CIS than the Ode To Joy.

MAN OF THE MATCH
ALEXEI MIKHAILICHENKO

SCOTLAND 3 C I S 0

Ref: Kurt ROTHLISBERGER (Swi)
Att: 14,660
HT: 2-0

SCORERS

McSTAY 6, McCLAIR 17, McALLISTER 83 (pen)

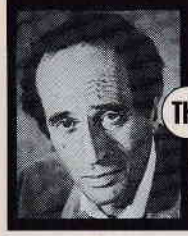
Andy GORAM (1)	Dimitri KHARIN (1)
Stewart MCKIMMIE (9)	Oleg KUZNETSOV (5)
Richard GOUGH (2)	51 Andrei CHERNISHOV (2)
Dave McPHERSON (8)	Kakhaber TCHADADZE (3)
Tommy BOYD (15)	Andrei KANCHELSKIS (8)
Gary McALLISTER (11)	85 Alexei MIKHAILICHENKO (7)
Paul McSTAY (3)	Igor DOBROVOSLKI (10)
Brian McCLAIR (6)	✹ Sergei ALEINIKOV (9)
Stuart McCALL (10) 71	Viktor ONOPKO (18)
Kevin GALLACHER (14) ☆	☆ Sergei KIRIAKOV (13)
Ally McCOIST (5) ✹	Sergei YURAN (11)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✹ Jim McINALLY (67 mins)	✹ 84 Dimitri KUZNETSOV (46 mins)
☆ Pat NEVIN (78 mins)	☆ Igor KORNEYEV (46 mins)

Final Table	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
HOLLAND	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
GERMANY	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
Scotland	3	1	0	3	3	3	2
CIS	3	0	2	1	1	4	2



THE Brian Glanville COLUMN

Hooligans?
Simply inevitable
Taylor's outburst is, too

The under-class on top . . . hooligans riot in Malmo.

TWO things that happened in the European Championship finals were quite predictable. That there would be the usual brutal violence from brutalised English fans, and that Graham Taylor would blow his top against the media. The only thing that surprised me is that it did not happen earlier.

I have found Taylor, during his run as England manager, admirably tolerant, genial and friendly. But there are plainly limits. Turning on the Press and the so-called media at large is always a sign of desperation, a two-edged sword.

England's first two performances in Sweden were pretty abysmal, even if lack of key players was something of an excuse. The football Press are not — or at least one hopes they are not — mere propaganda adjuncts of the Football Association. They must call it as they see it.

And the hooligans? Heaven help us, they don't change any more than the basic realities of the situation. They are an alienated under-class, moronic, talentless nihilists who live on and for violence.

If you send an England team abroad, you get them. And all the squalor that goes with them. Perverted patriotism. A culture of violence.

As I have said before, huge hypocrisy was involved in continuing to exclude the clubs from European competition on the basis of what England's so-called fans did or didn't do abroad.

But then our officials do love their cosy little trips abroad, bless them.

Trouble in Stuttgart in 1988? Forward, Bert "The Inert" Millichip, boldly to cry that the Football Association will not demand the return of the English clubs.

The clubs? But these nihilists, these renegades, are not following their clubs; they are allegedly following England.

Refused

When the clubs eventually were brought back after the 1990 World Cup it was essentially for political reasons.

Sports Minister Colin Moynihan, small but imperfectly informed, had he been true to his initial lights, would have refused to suggest the UEFA ban be lifted, after violence before the game against Holland in Cagliari.

But England reached the semi-finals of the World Cup, the country succumbed to an orgy of chauvinism, and it was as much as the Tories' life was worth to maintain the ban. Which should, in any case, have gone long before.

And now? UEFA President Lennart Johansson has threatened to take the 1996 European Championship finals away from England.

Futile.

It's precisely in England, where the police have a firm hand on the thugs, that violence is most likely to be contained.

Our police and, indeed, the FA did their very best to guard against violence in Sweden, but lack of co-operation from the Swedish police, themselves constrained by legislation which helped the hooligans, made

Just remarkable

STANDING among the seats in the Malmo stadium, talking to the always stimulating Jack Charlton, we were greeted by a small, squat man of dark and somewhat bloated countenance: Just Fontaine, still holder of the goal-scoring record for World Cups.

No fewer than 13 in the Swedish tournament of 1958, four of which I saw him score in the Gothenburg third-place match, for France against West Germany.

And I remember not only that match, a 7-3 success, but also my meeting first with Tommy Docherty, later with Fontaine and his purveyor, Raymond Kopa, near the Park Avenue Hotel in central Gothenburg, where England stayed briefly.

Docherty, a formidable wing-half for the Scots in that tournament, had just played against France.

"Their forwards are like greased lightning," he told me speaking chiefly of Kopa, dropping deep to make the bullets for Fontaine to fire, but also of course of Fontaine.

That afternoon in Gothenburg, Germany turned out something of a scratch team without the formidable inside forward and skipper Fritz Walter, still nursing his bruises from a close encounter in the semi-final with the Swedish left-half, Parling. properly nicknamed The Iron Stove.

Time after time, the beautifully balanced and adroit Kopa sent Fontaine bullocking through the scattered German defence.

I suppose you could say that these were cheap goals in a match that didn't matter, but they counted, and Fontaine's record must now be unassailable.

Dynamic pace, fine anticipation and a powerful shot characterised Fontaine all those years ago. But he would not have found it as easy today as he did all those years ago.

Fontaine . . . his record seems unbeatable.

such efforts useless. The arrangements in Malmo were useless, too. A huge beer tent, set up in a central square, was a lure for hooligans.

Of course they got drunk. Of course it turned nasty. And though this was utterly inevitable, there were initially pathetically few police to deal with the trouble. Which of course escalated. How could it do otherwise?

Fit . . . for what?

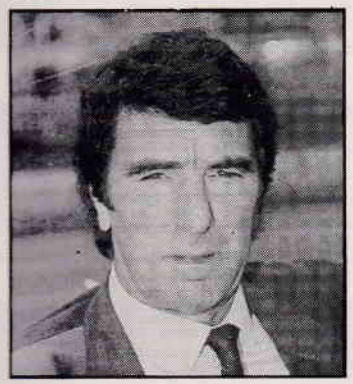
TO GAZZA, good luck, and Lord knows he will need it. If only he hadn't hurt himself in the Cup Final and had been able to join Lazio a year earlier.

How different everything might be, not only for him but for a club who were in turmoil, virtually under siege, in the last weeks of a disastrous season. Even the blessed Dino Zoff, greeted as an idol when he came from Juventus as manager a couple of years ago, was the target for vicious contumely and threats.

The Lazio coach was bombarded outside the Olympic stadium. The players were abused and pelted at the training ground. Four young men were arrested outside the Olimpico with boxes containing 250 eggs, brought to hurl at the team! The new president, the financier Sergio Cragnotti, has stood by Zoff, but clearly he hangs by a thread, a good, quiet, calm, decent man, lost amidst the chaos of Roman football.

In the circumstances, greeting Gazza as the new saviour has alarming undertones. The expectations placed on his study shoulders are almost unbearable. And never mind the shoulders, which of the knee?

Passing a fitness test is one thing. Surviving in the most demanding championship in the world is quite another.



In trouble . . . Zoff (left) and his Lazio players (above).

Passing foolishness

I WENT to Newport, Gwent, to attend the ill-starred meeting of the International Board, which foolishly decided to prohibit goalkeepers from handling passes back made with the foot. They must kick the ball instead.

From the first I have seen this as nothing but a piece of busy idleness, and whichever of the British Associations voted in its favour should be ashamed.

This piece of Blatterism — for the secretary of FIFA spoke strongly in favour — is of mere cosmetic import. It won't help in any way.

Above all, the change is an evasion. Both Blatter and Graham Kelly excoriated the weakness of referees who fail to apply the laws on time-wasting to goalkeepers. The corollary of this is to get better referees. The board have simply run away from the problem by changing the law. The implications of this are pretty grim, if the board ever bothered to work them out.

A law isn't being properly applied by referees? Change the law! The ultimate admission, surely of abject failure. In the event, we shall probably see fewer goals from now on.

The slack pass back to the keeper, intercepted by a forward — or even floating straight into goal — has been common for ages. Not now, I imagine.

TV's dross slot

THAT BskyB, surprisingly and controversially backed by the BBC (like a tick bird on the back of a rhinoceros) should bid so high for the Premier League TV contract seemed strange to me.

Not least when they and their talented young producer Mark Schofield had made such a success of the programme on Italian football.

Having been defenestrated from that programme, I have no axe to grind and no interest to declare. I'll simply say that it was fun while it lasted.

But to assume that the viewing public at large will want to buy a satellite dish and to put money in the slot to watch the dross which now passes for English League football is surely a gamble of truly Australian proportions. Quite apart from all the other important issues involved, such as the horrors and the inconveniences of Monday night football.

Howard Wilkinson, Alex Ferguson and the rest have been absolutely right to condemn it. Just as Melvyn Bragg, an ardent Carlisle United fan, was perfectly right to protest at the BBC's involvement.

In the right . . . Leeds United manager Howard Wilkinson.

SWEDEN V GERMANY

Inside the post . . . Riedle shoots past Eriksson and goalkeeper Ravelli for Germany's third goal.

Swedes cannot sca

GERMANY took revenge for an old hurt with the victory which carried them to the Final of Euro '92. Thomas Hassler was again their hero, involved in almost all the brightest moments of the match.

That said, it must be admitted that Sweden never scaled the peaks of performance they had reached against England. Perhaps that effort had drained them. Perhaps their ultimate ambition had lain "only" in reaching the semi-final. Their confidence did not extend to winning it.

Swedes and Germans had last met in a major semi-final in the World Cup finals of 1958. Sweden had won that day, in Gothenburg, to earn a trip to Stockholm for the final (and defeat) against Brazil.

Now the situation was reversed. This time the semi-final stage was the Rasunda stadium in Stockholm and the winners would go to the Ullevi in Gothenburg. The Germans also intended, of course, to reverse the result.

They had beaten Sweden in Stockholm on the teams' last meeting, in a friendly in October 1990 and Berti Vogts and his men wanted merely a repeat of recent, rather than distant, history.

Robbed

Sweden were robbed by suspension of Patrik Andersson in the centre of defence and Schwarz in midfield. Andersson might not be seriously missed but Schwarz had grown in stature throughout the finals and had been their dominant force in the second half against England. Not only was Schwarz important in his own right but he undertook much of the fetching and carrying for Thern, who had been carrying an injury. He was losing his assistant at just the wrong moment.

Suspended Schwarz's absence proves crucial for the hosts

Over the top . . . Hassler's free-kick clears the Swedish wall (above).

In the air . . . Kennet Andersson leaps to head Sweden's second (right).

In the event, Schwarz's absence proved crucial for the hosts. Sweden filled the gaps by introducing Ljung and Joakim Nilsson for their first appearances of the finals and recalling Kennet Andersson.

Ljung came in at left-back with Bjorklund going to the

BY KEIR RADNEDGE

e another peak

Hassler heads a typical German success

centre of defence.

Joakim Nilsson took over from Limpar on the left of midfield. Kennet Andersson returned on the right, with Ingesson taking over Schwarz's role alongside Thern.

Germany brought back the patched-up Reuter and Buchwald into defence and dropped sweeper Binz after a disastrous first half against Holland.

Moller also was out, with Sammer's improved display as a second-half substitute against the Dutch earning him the starting vote in midfield.

Dropped

The first half was like a re-run of the England match. Germany scored an early goal, Swedish heads dropped and the Germans might have gone in at half-time with more than one goal to show for their domination of midfield and defence.

There was no lack of physical endeavour: Effenberg was shown the first of four first-half yellow cards after only three minutes, for a foul on Thern.

But the Germans allied skill and accuracy in their passing to their resistance, and very nearly took the lead in the sixth minute when Klinsmann had a shot only parried by Ravelli after a Hassler-inspired move.

One rare shooting opportunity fell Sweden's way, with a seventh-minute free-kick which Joakim Nilsson drove wide. But it was a free-kick at the other end, three minutes later, which provided the breakthrough.

Eriksson brought down Riedle and Hassler, the little master, clipped his free-kick low through the edge of the wall and down past Ravelli's right hand.

Sammer should have scored a second when put in on the left by Effenberg and Riedle, then Brehme rattled Ravelli's crossbar with a drive after a tapped free-kick from the ever-creative Hassler.

Brehme was close again in first-half injury time: once again Hassler tapped a free-kick directly in front of goal and this time Brehme's low drive was saved by Ravelli, diving at the foot of his left-hand post.

Sweden might have brought Ekstrom in at the start of the second half. Instead Svensson contented himself by pushing Kennet Andersson forward. But he looked far too raw to accomplish serious damage to a far more sophisticated opposition than England had provided .

The only moment of danger the big man produced was with a free-kick after Buchwald had brought down Brolin. Andersson's powerful drive was pushed over the bar by Illgner.

Eight minutes later Germany went two goals clear. Hassler robbed Thern, then found Sammer in space ahead of him and he crossed for Riedle to apply a simple finishing touch.

Sweden responded by bringing on Limpar for the undistinguished Joakim Nilsson and pulled one goal back in the 64th minute. Ingesson, on his first slalom of the evening, loped into the German penalty box and made an enormous meal of falling over Helmer's attempted tackle. Brolin converted the penalty for his third goal of the finals.

Dahlin was proving an awkward handful for Kohler and his niggling and digging earned a yellow card. Sensibly he was substituted by Ekstrom shortly afterwards. Sweden and their fans never seemed to believe in their prospects of a full recovery. Instead Germany were closer to extending their lead and Ravelli had to be on his toes in the 84th minute to turn an Effenberg shot for a corner.

Surprised

The predictable third goal arrived in the 88th minute. Helmer surprised himself and his own team-mates by running personal rings round Sweden in midfield and then found the hosts so transfixed that the through pass for Riedle to convert was child's play.

Sweden hit back immediately from the kick-off when Kennet Andersson headed past Illgner — the goalkeeper paying the penalty for what was not his first moment's lack of concentration. For the Swedes it was an upbeat farewell to their fans.

The next morning's newspapers headlined their reports: Thanks, heroes. But the players were bitterly disappointed that they had let themselves down with a flat performance.

Svensson said he was proud of them and satisfied to have shown that "Sweden once again has a team to be reckoned with." His own reputation had greatly increased along the way.

Cracked

Vogts was delighted. He did not look delighted. But he said he was. And, more than that, the usually taciturn German boss even cracked a string of deadpan, tongue-in-cheek jokes with reporters.

"I have told my players," he said, "that we will have a light training session in the morning. Then I don't want to see their faces for a day and a half. After that we will prepare for the final."

WS
MAN OF THE MATCH
THOMAS HASSLER

SWEDEN 2 GERMANY 3

Ref: Tullio LANESE (Ita)
Att: 28,827
HT: 0-1

SCORERS

BROLIN 64 (pen), K. ANDERSSON 89 — HASSLER 18, RIEDLE 58, 88

Thomas RAVELLI (1)	Bodo ILLGNER (1)
Roland NILSSON (2)	42 Stefan REUTER (2)
Jan ERIKSSON (3)	Jurgen KOHLER (4)
Joachim BJORKLUND (5)	Thomas HELMER (14)
Roger LJUNG (18) 19	35 Guido BUCHWALD (6)
Kennet ANDERSSON (16)	Andy BREHME (3)
Klas INGESSON (7)	Thomas HASSLER (8)
Jonas THERN (9)	3 Stefan EFFENBERG (17)
Joachim NILSSON (19) ✹	Matthias SAMMER (16)
Martin DAHLIN (17) ☆ 66	✹ Jurgen KLINSMANN (18)
Tomas BROLIN (11)	24 Karlheinz RIEDLE (11)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

✹ Anders LIMPAR (59 mins)
☆ Johnny EKSTROM (72 mins)
✹ Thomas DOLL (89 mins)

Seventeen squared . . . Dahlin and Effenberg in opposition.

Joy for Christofte . . . as he celebrates scoring the decisive penalty (far right).

Trouble for Van Basten . . . as he is stopped by Torben Piechnik (right).

Delight for Bergkamp . . . as he rifles home the equaliser (below).

HOLLAND 2 DENMARK 2

Ref: **Soriano ALADREN** (Spa)
Att: **37,450**
HT: **0-0**

SCORERS

BERGKAMP 23, RIJKAARD 85 — **LARSEN 5, 32**

DENMARK WON 5-4 ON PENALTIES

Hans VAN BREUKELEN (1)	Peter SCHMEICHEL (1)
Adri VAN TIGGELEN (3)	Torben PIECHNIK (12)
Ronald KOEMAN (4)	Lars OLSEN (4)
Frank DE BOER (17) ✹	Kim CHRISTOFTE (6)
Frank RIJKAARD (8) ■ 41	John SIVEBAEK (2)
Jan WOUTERS (6)	Kim VILFORT (18)
Rob WITSCHGE (14)	John JENSEN (7)
Ruud GULLIT (10)	Henrik LARSEN (13)
Dennis BERGKAMP (7) ■ 14 ☆	Henrik ANDERSEN (5)
Brian ROY (20) ☆	Flemming POVLSEN (9)
Marco VAN BASTEN (9)	✹ Brian LAUDRUP (11)

■ yellow card ▲ red card

SUBSTITUTIONS

• Wim KIEFT (46 mins)	• Lars ELSTRUP (57 mins)
☆ John VAN'T SCHIP (115 mins)	☆ Claus CHRISTIANSEN (70 mins)

PENALTY SHOOT-OUT SEQUENCE

Ronald KOEMAN *Scored*	1	Henrik LARSEN *Scored*
Marco VAN BASTEN *Saved*	2	Flemming POVLSEN *Scored*
Dennis BERGKAMP *Scored*	3	Lars ELSTRUP *Scored*
Frank RIJKAARD *Scored*	4	Kim VILFORT *Scored*
Rob WITSCHGE *Scored*	5	Kim CHRISTOFTE *Scored*

HOLLAND 4 — **DENMARK 5**

DENMARK—against all the odds

Favourites Holland falter at the finish

TWO-STEP Kim Christofte, cool as you like, converted the decisive penalty which sent Denmark into the final nobody had predicted.

The Danes had entered Euro '92 only 11 days before it started, substitutes for politically-bereft Yugoslavia: they were, at one stage, bottom of Group One. Now they found themselves 90 minutes from the ultimate prize.

Denmark's heroes were goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel, knocking down his own players as successfully as he knocked away Holland's most threatening efforts; Lars Olsen, even-tempered sweeper and skipper; Henrik Andersen, again an inspiration before falling victim to a knee injury; Henrik Larsen with two decisive goals; Brian Laudrup with his most inspirational attacking display yet; Fleming Povlsen tireless as attack leader in normal time then back in midfield; John Sivebaek,

hobbling bravely at centre forward in extra time to keep Ronald Koeman and Co occupied.

Ironically, Denmark's standby team had achieved something which proved beyond their fine sides of the 1980s — reaching the final of a major event. Dutch manager Rinus Michels paid generous credit to their stamina and fighting spirit.

He also admitted that Holland, again, had been caught by the achilles heel. Michels said: "Our players wanted to win by only playing football. For too much of the match they forgot that to win you also have to fight and battle."

Holland, perhaps, believed the publicity. Conventional wisdom in Gothenburg held Holland so sure of victory that the Danes and their fans were wasting time, effort and money even bothering to turn up.

Holland had been most people's favourites before the finals or had become their tip during the tournament with the class of their football and the demonstrable finishing talents of not so much Van Basten but his heir-apparent, Bergkamp.

They had Van Aerle fit but decided that their tactical purposes were better suited by maintaining De Boer in defence. That was comparatively simple for Michels. Denmark manager Moller Nielsen had rather more imponderables.

Damaged

Kent Nielsen had damaged a hamstring against France and was always a doubt. Moller Nielsen decided not to take any risk and named Piechnik, a substitute against France, as a starter against the Dutch to mark Van Basten. In midfield Denmark recalled Vilfort, reassured about his sick daughter back in Denmark.

The man to drop out was striker Frank — Brian Laudrup moving forward to join Povlsen in attack.

All preconceived ideas about the pattern of the match were quickly shattered. Laudrup, who would play his best game of the finals, escaped on the right and crossed beyond Van Breukelen for Larsen to head home. Just five minutes had gone.

For Holland, the unthinkable had happened. Their first attack produced a shot from Gullit which was scrambled away for a corner. Their second was halted when Vilfort brought down Bergkamp just outside the penalty box. The position was ideal for Koeman but he lifted his free-kick high over the bar.

Holland maintained their pressure and Andersen was shown the yellow card for a trip on Gullit. Andersen shook his head in anger — if Denmark won he would miss the final, this being his second caution of the tournament. Andersen, to his credit, did not allow that setback to deflect him from the task in hand.

Two minutes later he robbed Gullit fairly to launch a defence-splitting attack which was foiled only by an offside flag. Holland began to worry. Wouters began mixing it in midfield and Piechnik needed treatment after one crunching challenge.

Laudrup was Wouters's next victim, being laid out by a body-check. Holland wanted, as always, to look good on their way to victory. But it was not until the 23rd minute that they got back properly into this semi-final for the first time.

A superb move involving Wouters, Witschge and Rijkaard ended with Bergkamp striking his third goal of the finals.

Holland were a litle fortunate to be level and, as if to make that point, Denmark regained the lead in the 32nd minute after a fine, wing-to-wing move. Povlsen crossed from the left wing, Vilfort nodded back, Laudrup headed into the six-yard box, Koeman headed straight out and Larsen strode forward to fire his and Denmark's second goal past the unusually nervy Van Breukelen.

Holland were stretched badly on both sides in defence. Povlsen stormed through on the left in the 38th minute and referee Soriano Aladren's refusal to caution Koeman for his trip on the edge of the penalty box was inexplicable.

The Danes were incensed — their anger boiling over three minutes later when Rijkaard WAS booked, for tripping Laudrup. Schmeichel ran to the halfway line demanding to know why the referee had not brought out his card earlier.

Van Basten is the unlikely focus of failure

Holland brought on Kieft up front at half-time, pushed Witschge back and took off De Boer. Kieft had been scoring all the goals in training matches but his arrival did not bring any immediate positive benefit.

The Dutch spent all the half on the attack and most of the time in the Danish half. But much of the time they were a creative muddle. Of course there were openings. Roy shot into Schmeichel's arms from 20 yards, Gullit saw a lob caught under the bar by the keeper who did well to block an angled drive from Gullit in the 81st minute.

In between Denmark had opportunities on the break. Povlsen turned Van Tiggelen in the 52nd minute then shot into the side net and Larsen headed badly wide from a Vilfort cross.

If anything, the Danes did not concentrate enough on their rare raids upfield: it was as if they were merely relieved to have raised the siege on Schmeichel's goal. As time drew on they lost both Andersen and Laudrup to injury, had to move the hobbling Sivebaek into attack and it was no surprise when Holland equalised — though, with five minutes remaining, they had left it desperately late.

Witschge fired in a right-wing corner, Gullit flicked it on with his head, Van Basten flicked it on with his heel and Rijkaard stabbed the ball home through a forest of legs.

At the start of extra time it seemed Holland needed merely to stay on their feet to win. The Danes were tottering — literally.

On the two occasions they did get men forward first Povlsen then Jensen could not control their shots. Holland, again, dictated play. In the first half of extra time Roy shot wide, then had a close-range shot brilliantly stopped by Schmeichel.

In the last 15 minutes Gullit had one effort cleared by Christofte and then was just too late to connect with a Van Basten cross. It was not Holland's night.

They found out the most painful way in the penalty shoot-out. Van Basten, 25-goal top scorer in Italy, had not scored once in these finals. His own penalty — Holland's second, duly lacked conviction. Schmeichel's save proved decisive.

At the end of the shoot-out Christofte won the gamesmanship duel with Van Breukelen and stroked Denmark into the final.

For Van Basten, Europe had turned upside down. Four years ago he was Holland's title-winning hero. Now he was the unlikely focus of their failure.

MAN OF THE MATCH
PETER SCHMEICHEL

Agony for Andersen . . . a knee injury ruled him out of the final.

letters

We welcome your letters on any topic concerning international football. - Write to: **Editor's Letters, World Soccer, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.** We regret that Information Desk queries (no long lists please) can be dealt with only through this column.

Not impressed

SIR — After watching Ireland play Italy and Portugal in the US Cup '92 live on RTE, I have four main complaints: The pitch was much too narrow to play on. Remember, Foxboro will stage several World Cup matches in two years.

The cameras were at the rear of a deep stand, so you saw as much of the front tier as of the pitch.

Every minute or so, a voice came over the PA system, telling the crowd what a great deal American Airlines gave, or how refreshing Gatorade was. In the Portugal match, the announcer even had to inform the American spectators that referees usually played injury time! In both matches, the referees obviously thought that they were officiating in American football, stopping play every 10 seconds, making flowing football impossible. They always seemed to be in the opposite half of play, most noticeably when Bonner was unjustly sent off.

If this is a dress rehearsal for the World Cup, the Americans will have to get their act together.

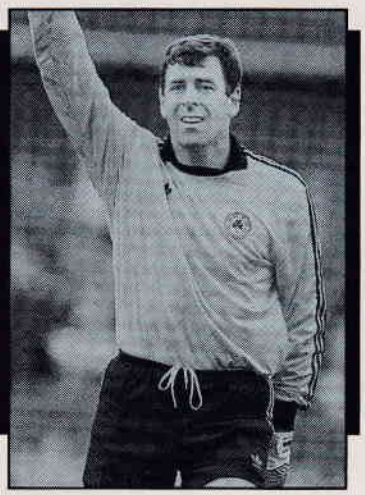
— MICHAEL CONNOLLY, Portadown, Co Armagh, N. Ireland.

Wrong move

SIR — The UEFA decision to ban Yugoslavia from competing in the European Championship was wrong.

In 1986 Iraq were allowed to compete in the World Cup despite their war with Iran.

— TEJAN M.S. YULLAH, Banjul, The Gambia.



Stand up and be counted

SIR — The Taylor Report recommended all-seater stadia, but the idea that this was for safety reasons alone is misconceived.

Standing accommodation is not inherently unsafe. I understand the football authorities (FIFA, UEFA etc) require all-seater stadia for international matches and for matches between clubs from different nations. Only a few British clubs are likely to be involved in European competitions. To promote the idea that most League clubs should have an all-seater stadium is an impossible dream.

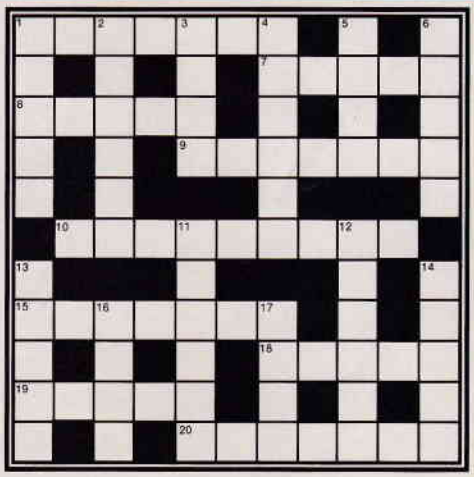
The Institute of Structural Engineers report, Appraisal of Sports Grounds 1991, considered carefully the Taylor recommendations and seating was given particular attention.

Standing terraced accommodation is not unsafe provided that it complies with the recommendations of the Home Office guide to safety at sports grounds and with the institutions report. Let us not confuse matters. All-seater stadia are required for comfort, and not necessarily for safety.

— ANDY CLARKE, Aldershot, Hants, England.

WORLD SOCCER CROSSWORD

COMPILED BY
Christine Ansell



ACROSS

1. French forward who joined Leeds United last season (7)
7. Goalkeeper transferred from Gijon to Atletico Madrid in 1991 (5)
8. Finnish town where FC Kuuysis is based (5)
9. Former Liverpool and England midfielder contracted to Man City (7)
10. German city boasting the Wildparkstadion (9)
15. Rumanian striker who moved from Steau to Fiorentina and Oviedo (7)
18. Nation whose clubs contest the Nehru Cup (5)
19. Marseille's club president (5)
20. Full-back who scored Liverpool's 1981 European Cup final winner (7)

DOWN

1. Galaasaray striker who took the 1991 European Silver Boot (5)
2. Ex-Czech skipper in charge at Sparta Prague from 1991 (6)
3. Coach charged with holding the 'Yugoslav' national side together (4)
4. Brazilian striker who tried his luck with Portugal's Vitoria Guimaraes in '88 (6)
5. Liberian voted Africa's Player of the Year in 1989 (4)
6. Welsh midfielder with Southampton (5)
11. Udo - former coach to Bayern and Koln (6)
12. Former Spurs, Monaco and England midfielder (6)
13. England midfield player who joined Bari in 1991 (5)
14. National side coached by Arrigo Sacchi (5)
16. Symbols of international honours (4)
17. Swiss Cup winners, 1991 (4)

JUNE SOLUTION
Across: 2.Callaghan 6.Hosts 7.McNab 9.Nordin 10. Sane 12.Sosa 14.Kadlec 17.Nkono 18.Rocha 19.Cremonese
Down: 1.Johansson 2.Cesar 3.Leslie 4.Army 5.Hansaâ 8.Bresciani 11.Zabrze 13.Stroke 15.Lecce 16.Toto

WORLDWIDE QUIZ

JUNE'S WORLDWIDE quiz seems to have foxed most of you, as the number of all-correct answers was well down on the previous month.

But some did get them all right, and this month's winner is EVAN DONLON of Blackburn, who wins a year's subscription to *WORLD SOCCER* plus a binder and an exclusive, limited edition *WORLD SOCCER* tee-shirt.

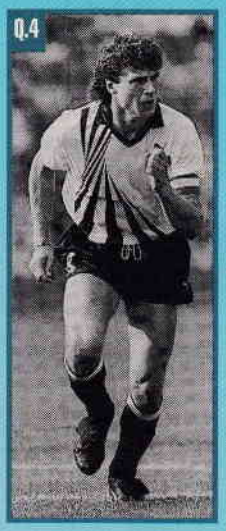
Here are this month's questions:

1. Which English club provided players for four of the finalists at this summer's European Championship?

2. Name the coach who suceeded Jeff Butler at Kaizer Chiefs last year.

3. What was specially significant about the signing of Jamie Forrester and Kevin Sharp in 1991?

4. For which club does Austrian striker Toni Polster (right) play?



5. Name the tournament Chelsea won in Canada in May this year.

6. Which club won a national championship last year under the management of Hernan Dario Gomez?

7. Who gained an FA Cup-winner's medal with Liverpool in his first cup-tie for the club?

8. How many players played in the England-Brazil match at Wembley earlier this year?

9. In which African country are there clubs named Debo Mopti, Biton Segou and Tatia de Sikasso?

10. Who is the coach of Germany's new champions, VfB Stuttgart?

11. Which foreign player signed for an English team last season, but made his debut at his new club's home ground by playing for his country?

12. What is the link between HJK Helsinki, Bayern Munich, AS Roma, Hertha Berlin, Lazio and Ajax?

13. Which country have played 16 World Cup finals matches, in five tournaments, without a single victory?

14. Iceland's 2-1 win against Hungary in Budapest last month was only their second ever World Cup qualifying victory away from home. When was the other, and against which country?

15. Juventus, AC Milan and Internazionale all wear gold stars on their shirts. What do these stars represent?

16. Who are the reigning champions of the American Professional Soccer League?

17. In which city was Scotland captain Richard Gough (left) born?

18. Gary Lineker's new Japanese club, Grampus Eight, play in which city?

19. Which club won their country's national championship in the season just ended having conceded only 11 goals in 34 games?

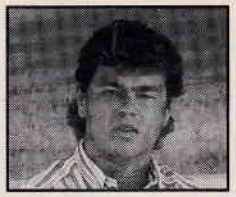
20. Name the Scottish player who was awarded the MBE in the Queen's birthday honours last year.

Send your entries on a postcard or back of an envelope to:
WORLDWIDE QUIZ (JULY), *WORLD SOCCER*, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS, to arrive by July 20th.

If you are still in the dark over last month's questions, let us enlighten you with the answers.

1 .... Malcolm Macdonald, Luther Blissett and Gary Lineker.
2 .... Bulgaria.
3 .... Johan Cruyff and Alex Ferguson.
4 .... Boxing.
5 .... Zoltan Czibor, for Hungary 1954 and Barcelona 1961. Both games were played in Berne.
6 .... Glentoran and Shelbourne.
7 .... Sergei Baltacha
8 .... Ron Flowers.
9 .... Roy Hodgson, with Switzerland.
10 .. Atletico Madrid.
11 .. Marseille.
12 .. Bobby Langton. Seven games were away and four at grounds other than Wembley.
13 .. Club Africain of Tunisia.
14 .. Portsmouth, v Newcastle United in 1956.
15 .. Bella Vista.
16 .. Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico.
17 .. Albania
18 .. Denis Law, for Scotland, twice, and the Rest of the World, against England and for Manchester United v Leicester City in an FA Cup Final. Gordon Banks was the goalkeeper each time.
19 .. Joe Marston, for Preston in 1954.
20 .. Rangers, in 1957-58.

COMPILED BY **JOHN KELLY**



Managerial trouble . . . Edinho (left) and Bernardes.

Lacklustre Fluminense under attack

FLUMINENSE, Rio de Janeiro's oldest club, will celebrate their 90th birthday in July in the middle of one of the worst crises in the club's history.

The club are swimming in debts and last month said goodbye to the Brazilian championship after a series of insomnia-curing performances which had television fans rushing for either the off button or the soap opera on the other channel.

Fluminense finished the first stage of a mediocre competition in 14th place, well short of the eighth place needed to reach the semi-finals, scoring a miserable 21 goals in their 19 games.

It was the team's astonishingly lacklustre performances rather than the results, a sequence of 1-1 and 0-0 draws, which infuriated the fans. Ridden by internal squabbling, the players generally showed as much fighting spirit as a flock of sheep.

The anger boiled to the surface during the home game against Sport Recife which ended — as usual — in a 1-1 draw.

Eight thousand supporters turned up for the match at the Laranjeiras stadium ready to show their disapproval at the first opportunity.

Bobo seemed to have saved the players from the fans' wrath when he gave Fluminense a first-half lead. But when Sport Recife — who drew 11 times in 19 matches — equalised through Moura in the second half, all hell broke lose.

Fluminense were booed and jeered for the last 20 minutes and when the final whistle went, fans broke down the fencing around the pitch and threw stones at the stadium, breaking the French windows in the historic main stand. The players were forced to leave by a back exit.

Not surprisingly, the directors decided to transfer the team's last home game against Cruzeiro to Juiz de Fora, a three-hour drive away.

With debts reportedly totalling 1.8 million dollars, Fluminense have been forced to abstain from signing players for some time. But respectable performances in last year's Brazilian championship, when the team reached the semi-final before losing to Bragantino, and the Rio championship, when they lost to Flamengo in the final, kept the wolf from the door.

Contract

The crisis exploded following the departure of ex-international defender Edinho, at the start of the year, over a disagreement regarding the renewal of his contract.

Edinho's leadership brought the most from a mainly anonymous bunch. But his replacement, Arthur Bernardes, never hit it off with the players, who accused him of overdoing the training sessions and the club's weaknesses were fully exposed.

Upset . . . Renato (stripes) says the Botafogo directors are not thinking big.

Edinho himself launched a blistering attack on the current board of directors the day before the Sport match. "There are people in the club who put the emphasis on personal interests. All they want to do is to exchange and sell players. I realised quickly that I would not get my contract renewed," he said.

"The lack of confidence on the field is a reflection of the directors' policy. The players are not to blame, many should not have been signed. They would be better off in Second Division teams."

Fireworks can be expected at the end of the year when the presidency, currently held by Angelo Chaves, comes up for election

Elsewhere, Botafogo overcame their own international wranglings to become the first team to guarantee a place in the semi-finals with a 6-0 thrashing of Goias. All was not sweetness and light, however.

The players had become sadly accustomed to the routine of being paid late, while winger Renato criticised the directors for not "thinking big."

Renato was upset because Botafogo were playing their home matches in the 15,000 capacity Caio Martins stadium, claiming they should play in the Maracana like Flamengo. He was also fed up with travelling by coach to matches in Sao Paulo, saying that Botafogo should go by plane like Flamengo.

Vasco da Gama made sure of qualification three rounds before the end of the first phase, even though Bebeto's goal supply temporarily dried up as he got stuck on 13.

Bragantino may well have bored most of their opponents into submission on their way to becoming the third team to qualify, with a miserable goal tally of 16 scored and 13 conceded in 19 games.

The other five teams only booked their places in their last matches.

Cruzeiro, the only team from outside Rio or Sao Paulo to reach the semi-finals, went through with a 1-1 draw "away" to Fluminense in Juiz de Fora.

Corinthians, after numerous splutters, scraped through with a 1-0 win over Atletico Paranaense, with midfielder Viola scoring the vital goal. Viola is known for scoring crucial goals but is also known for having problems off the pitch and does not hold down a regular place in the first team.

Sao Paulo, despite playing Libertadores Cup matches every Wednesday, qualified with a 2-0 win over Nautico.

BRIAN **HOMEWOOD**

Newell's unbeaten in 23 games

RIVER PLATE and Boca Juniors, classic rivals of Argentine soccer, clashed in the second round of the national championship and drew 2-2.

The result favoured Boca Juniors, who stayed two points ahead at the top at the time, and meant that River Plate had failed to beat their rivals in their last nine meetings, including summer tournaments and Libertadores Cup games.

River Plate dominated for long periods after Diego Latorre had put Boca ahead after two minutes. Berti equalised after 36 minutes and Ramon Diaz added a penalty after 57, but Latorre scored again after 75. Just before the end Berti was sent off for a foul on Paraguayan Roberto Cabanas, who was carried off.

Off. . . Berti of Newell's Old Boys (right) was shown the red card for a foul.

About 1,000 police in and around the stadium controlled the 75,000 capacity crowd, but trouble had come a day earlier when furious fans caused disturbances and stoned cars driven by Boca players. There were 12 injured, including two police.

The trouble started when the ticket windows were closed after 15 minutes "because the 5,000 available standing tickets were sold out." In nearby streets they were being sold by touts at twice the price.

With six games to go Newell's Old Boys topped the table by two points over Boca Juniors and had gone 23 League and Libertadores Cup games unbeaten.

Their coach, Marcelo Bielsa, says they are giving preference to the Libertadores Cup, having reached the semi-finals, but they have not been playing weak teams in League matches, as is the custom with other clubs.

River Plate lost 5-0 at home (for the first time in their history) to Newell's, ending an 11-game unbeaten record. All the goals came in last 25 minutes, and River Plate finished with seven men.

Three of them went for protesting, but it was their own fault. They should have known that referee Javiet Castrilli had sent off 31 players in his last 28 games.

The disciplinary committee treated the culprits lightly, whereupon referees decided not to control games until the disciplinary committee president resigned and all players sent off were automatically suspended.

Provincial referees were called in to replace them at the last moment. Castrilli has now been told by the referees committee to tone it down.

Racing Club, one of the country's "big six", have fallen on hard times since winning the First Division title in 1966.

As is the habit, coaches were blamed . . . 44 of them in 27 years!

Humberto Grondona, son of Argentine FA chief Julio, stepped up from junior coach to become the 45th but was given a contract only until the end of the season. Already there is talk of No. 46.

ERIC **WEIL**

GIANT FEES FOR KIDS

COLOMBIA'S big talking point in recent weeks has been the transfer of forward's Faustino Asprilla and Ivan Rene Valenciano to the Italian clubs, Parma and Atalanta, respectively.

The results of both clubs have suddenly enjoyed a much higher profile in the media, in almost direct proportion to the decline in interest in Valladolid since the departure of Maturana, Valderrama and company earlier this year.

On the evidence of the Olympic qualifying tournament in February, Valenciano and Asprilla are the two best young strikers on the continent. Even in these inflationary times, though, Parma's $4m investment in Asprilla and Atalanta's $4.5m payout for Valenciano still represents a lot of money for two young men — Asprilla is 22, Valenciano is 20 — who have yet to start a full international between them.

Valenciano bagged 30 goals last season for Junior Barranquilla. Not only did this earn him the accolade as Footballer of the Year, but it made him the first Colombian to reach the 30 goal mark in almost 30 years.

Potentially he is the best scorer has Colombia ever produced, despite an obvious lack of height. By his own admission he has rarely, if ever, scored with his head.

Asprilla took until the middle of last year to earn a regular place in Nacional's side but in December he was voted the best player in the final stages of the championship, combining vital goals with searing pace.

Both Junior and Nacional have started the search for replacements, and Junior have signed midfielder Hector Mendez, a Uruguayan who was the leading scorer in Colombia in 1989.

Mendez, an America Cali asset who played with Bucuramanga last year, was the first signing as part of the deal

Moving . . . Valenciano.

that took international midfielder Leonel Alvarez to America Cali rather than Junior.

Deportivo Cali still lead the way in the League, undefeated through the first three months of the season. At the other end of the scale Cucuta became the latest team to dispose of their coach, in this case ex-international Fernando Castro.

Two other clubs have dismissed their coaches — Baudillo Jauregui has left Tolima and Enrique Brigard has been sacked by Real Cartagena.

Medellin have signed Uruguayan international goalkeeper Fernando Alves, formerly of Penarol and Santa Fe of Bogota.

In only his third game back in Colombia, Alves was sent off against Once Phillips. In the same game, compatriot Sergio Santin accomplished the rare feat of missing two penalties in two minutes, while in opposition to Alves.

Even with Carlos Valderrama running their midfield, Medellin have fallen well below the expectations of their fans thus far.

KEITH **SMITH**

Batistuta's winners

ARGENTINA took this year's Kirin Cup in Japan, with successive 1-0 victories over Japan and Wales.

They arrived complete with Caniggia, Batistuta, Franco and Rodriguez, back together from Europe for the first time this year. But although sufficient to overcome moderate opposition, the team were only a shadow of last year's Copa America side.

Batistuta scored both goals, in the 53rd minute against Japan and with a last-minute free-kick against the unlucky Welsh.

Wales had the consolation of a 1-0 victory over Japan, thanks to a 40th-minute goal by Mark Bowen.

Winning . . . Argentina.

PERU

ALIANZA LIMA lost 1-0 to Universitario de Deportes in another edition of the Lima classic between Peru's most popular teams.

That left Alianza in the unaccustomed position of bottom after six games in the new 16-team First Division. They had scored only one goal, although letting in only four. Something had to give and, as expected, Argentine coach Pedro Dellacha was dismissed and replaced by a former Peruvian international, Cesar Cueto.

Alianza, winners of 14 titles — second to Universitario's 19 since the championship began in 1928 — are the club who lost their entire first team in an air crash near Lima in 1987.

The rivalry with Universitario started mainly because the latter traditionally field only white players, but these racial requirements have lately disappeared as both clubs tried to strengthen their teams with foreign players.

The general lament, however, is that while young Peruvains are going abroad, they are being replaced with foreigners in the veteran stage.

URUGUAY

NACIONAL and Penarol are back in the title fight after several lean seasons.

With a quarter of the First Division campaign over, Nacional were unbeaten in six games, with a one-point lead over Danubio. Penarol, now under former Red Star Belgrade coach Ljbomir Petrovic, were third, a further point behind.

Nacional have found a good new forward in Antonio Vidal Gonzalez, who never gained the praise he deserved in his own country with Argentinos Juniors.

He is ably supported by Panamanian Julio Dely Valdez, whose brother, Jorge, following disagreements with the club board, was transferred to Chile's Union Espanola.

There have been few goals in general but a lot of players have been sent off — 10 in one day from six matches.

PARAGUAY

OLIMPIA won the first of the season's tournaments, the Copa Republica, by beating Cerro Porteno 1-0 after a 1-1 draw in the two-legged final.

Olimpia, the 1990 Libertadores Cup winners who did not get a place in this year's tournament, will be back in the cup next year.

This was coach Roberto Perfurmo's first title, after he had had little luck with his old club, Racing Club, in Argentina.

Two of Olimpia's veterans, Raul Amarilla (32) and Julio Cesar Romero "Romerito" (34), refrained from following the trail to Japan because they want to be in the Libertadores Cup next year.

VENEZUELA

WITH two games to go, Minerven — who set a League record with a 13-0 win over Salineros — and Caracas FC were virtually assured of the top two places, separated by a point.

Maritimo, with a game in hand, also had a slight chance.

Minerven drew 0-0 with Caracas to retain their one-point lead in a match in which both sides were too intent on topping the other.

CHILE

CHAMPIONS Colo Colo, often fielding weak teams while defending the Libertadores Cup, still reached the quarter-finals of the pre-season Copa Chile, but lost the first leg 3-2 to traditional Santiago rivals, Universidad Catolica.

Veteran international Patricio Yanez, 31, who starred for Colo Colo last season but has played little this year due to injury problems, has said he would retire.

The volatile winger has had disagreements with the club, and private problems due to his divorce.

Chile's oldest club, Santiago Wanderers, who dropped into the Second Division two years ago, face extinction through bankruptcy unless the town can bail them out to the tune of 577,000 dollars.

ECUADOR

EMELEC led the championship at halfway, with excellent attacking play, but Barcelona — who had reached the Libertadores Cup semi-finals and frequently fielded a good reserve team in League games — were only a point behind.

MEXICO

ATLANTE, one of Mexico's oldest teams, finished the regular championship with the best record — 50 points from 38 games.

The club, who returned to the First Division only this season, go into the knockout play-offs with the winners of the other three sections — Guadalajara, Nexaca and UNAM.

Nexaca finished with a run of 14 games unbeaten, and the highest goals total, 67.

The other four qualifiers for the play-offs are Veracruz, Puebla, Leon and America.

GUATEMALA

Municipalidad won the title for the 14th time by beating Comunicaciones 2-1 in the second leg of the play-off, after a 0-0 draw.
Municipalidad won the regular championship, but Comunicaciones won the final round to force a decider.

EL SALVADOR

Luis Angel Firpo won the regular championship by 11 points and qualified for the final round with Alianza and FAS, while Fuerte San Francisco and Aguilar tied for fourth and were due to play off for the remaining place.

POTATOES INSTEAD OF PELE

MARACANA STADIUM in Rio, inaugurated for the 1950 World Cup with a capacity of over 200,000, may become a shopping centre.

The place has been falling apart in recent years through lack of maintenance and frequent flooding. Rats roam around inside, and Brazil no longer play there.

The politicians are now considering a plan known as Maracana 2000, which involves using part of the site, plus the nearby athletics track and aquatic park, for a shopping centre with banks, discos, theatres and restaurants.

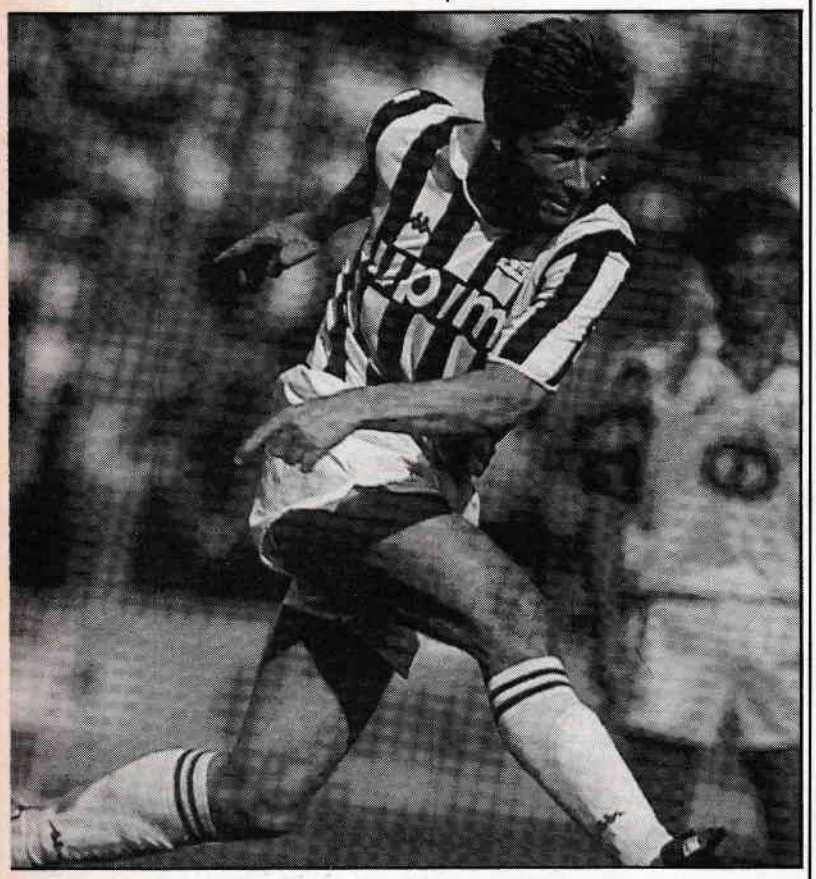
Money obtained from companies taking space would go towards refurbishing the stadium.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

diary

World Soccer's news service conducted by

KEIR RADNEDGE in Sweden



TUESDAY, JUNE 9

ITALY: *German attempts to instil a ban on all transfer talk in their camp fail to stop Italian summer business. Juventus transfer German defender* ***Stefan Reuter (above)*** *not to promoted Ancona as expected, but back home to Borussia Dortmund. Elsewhere, German skipper Rudi Voller is the subject of an offer from Marseille to Roma.*

SWEDEN: *Hosts Sweden stage a press conference which is an object lesson to every other team in media relations . . . Scotland fly in reporting that Maurice Malpas is fully recovered . . . Germany report Thomas Doll has recovered from a foot injury . . . England manager Graham Taylor says he will name his team against Denmark at the last possible moment, an hour before kick-off . . . Holland worry about a late injury niggle for Frank Rijkaard.*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

SWEDEN: *Hosts Sweden open the European Championship finals with a 1-1 draw against France . . . UEFA announce a revamped Fair Play Award . . . the Swedish organisers say that the winners will take home a profits share of £2.5million with even the first-round losers collecting £1.5million . . . Mercedes Benz will provide the latest models for a motorcade through Frankfurt if Germany win the title.*

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

ARGENTINA: *Diego Maradona insists that under no circumstances will he return to Napoli once his suspension has ended.*

GREECE: *Alketas Panagulias returns to the post of national manager in succession to Antonis Gheorghiadis.*

SWEDEN: *England and Denmark produce a draw of their own in Group A's second match . . . a main television studio at the Ullevi stadium in Gothenburg burns down overnight causing temporary panic among TV officials and providing a great deal of extra, high-speed work for a couple of local building companies . . . Holland's Gullit, Van Basten and De Boer prepare for the Scotland challenge by playing golf . . . Swedish officials hint that Dahlin may play from the start against Denmark on Sunday.*

PORTUGAL: *Benfica buy World Youth Cup-winning hero Joao Pinto II from domestic cup-winners Boavista.*

YUGOSLAVIA: *Ivica Osim, who resigned not only as national manager but as coach to Partizan, is close to agreement with Greek club Panathinaikos.*

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

ARGENTINA: *The AFA confirm that they will go ahead with the scheduled international against Australia in the River Plate stadium in Buenos Aires next Wednesday.*

BELGIUM: *Mechelen announce that goalkeeper Michel Preud'homme, who had been hoping to move to Italy with Brescia, has signed a new three-year contract to stay home . . . a court in Liege refers the case of Jean-Marc Bosman — and thus football's transfer system — to the European Court of Justice. Bosman went to court originally in November 1990 in an attempt to secure the transfer he wanted to French club Dunquerque.*

ITALY: *Genoa agree terms to buy Ajax's John Van't Schip. Neighbours Sampdoria are reported hot in pursuit of Holland team-mate Bryan Roy.*

SPAIN: *Federation president Angel Villar says that, even though Javier Clemente is leaving Espanol to succeed Vicente Miera as national manager, he wants Miera to remain in charge until after the Barcelona Olympics. Clemente is reported to have agreed a two-year contract worth £500,000 plus £150,000 bonus if Spain qualify for the next World Cup finals.*

SWEDEN: *Holland collect the first victory of the finals, defeating Scotland 1-0 in Gothenburg. Germany then scrape a 1-1 draw with the CIS and lose Rudi Voller with a broken arm . . . England are refused permission to send for Tony Adams as replacement for Mark Wright.*

YUGOSLAVIA: *Red Star sell another of their stars, Sinisa Mihajlovic, to AS Roma, and report negotiations near to completion regarding Vladimir Jugovic's sale to Sampdoria.*

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

SPAIN: *Real Madrid win 2-1 away to Gijon in the first leg of their Cup semi-final.*

SWEDEN: *Sweden goalkeeper* ***Thomas Ravelli (below)*** *is reported as a transfer target for English club Luton. Martin Dahlin, who plays in Germany for Borussia Monchengladbach, is under consideration by French club Saint-Etienne . . . German coach Berti Vogts confirms Andy Brehme as new captain in Voller's enforced absence. But Voller is expected to stay with the German party in Sweden.*

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

BRAZIL: *Six players are sent off after a major set-to as Corinthians lose 1-0 at home to Botafogo in the national championship. Valdeir scores the decisive goal.*

CROATIA: *Hajduk Split beat Sibenik 4-1 on the last day of the new season to win the first Croatian championship.*

SWEDEN: *English fans take most of the blame after overnight hooligan trouble in Malmo in which shop windows are smashed, a motorbike burned, a petrol station robbed of £4,000 amid general mayhem. Mounted police and police with dogs eventually quell the trouble. Eight English fans are immediately expelled from Sweden and 22 people are reported treated in hospital . . . injured German skipper Rudi Voller announces his retirement from the national team . . . the German federation are fined £300 by UEFA's disciplinary commission because two missiles (cigarette lighters) were thrown on to the pitch at Norrkoping from among the German fans after the CIS were awarded their penalty on Thursday night . . . UEFA confirm that ten candidates are standing for election to the six vacant executive committee posts at the June 25 Congress in Gothenburg. Among those seeking re-election are Bert Millichip (England), Freddy Rumo (Switzerland) and Antonio Matarrese (Italy).*

MONDAY, JUNE 15

NORWAY: *Lillestrom win 4-0 away to Mjondalen to stay two points clear at the top of the table.*

SWEDEN: *Holland miss a chance to reach the semi-finals with a game to spare when they are held 0-0 by the CIS. Earlier Germany beat Scotland 2-0 in a hugely entertaining match in Norrkoping . . . more overnight trouble from England fans is reported in Malmo . . . England manager Graham Taylor bites back at media criticism of his players . . . UEFA president Lennart Johansson warns that further fan trouble could cost England the right to host the 1996 European finals — and provoke another European club ban . . . Sweden relax ahead of their crucial match against England by attending a Bruce Springsteen concert.*

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

SWEDEN: *Overnight trouble now in Stockholm with 400 police deployed to break fighting among 50 English and Swedish youths. Malmo shopkeepers estimate the cost of damage in two nights at £25,000 . . . Berti Vogts reports Riedle (damaged nose), Stefan Reuter and Guido Buchwald (both head gashes) as doubtful for the decisive Group Two match against Holland . . . a Swedish newspaper reveals, after a special study, that midfielder Jonas Thern spent just 82 seconds on the ball in the win over Denmark . . . speculation increases that Barcelona may be the next destination for new German captain Andy Brehme, who is likely to leave Internazionale of Italy this summer . . . Kim Vilfort returns home to Denmark because of increasing concern over his seven-year-old daughter who is being treated in Copenhagen for leukaemia.*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

FAROE ISLANDS: *The Faroes lose 2-0 at home in Toftir to Cyprus in a World Cup qualifier.*

SPAIN: *Leo Beenhakker is returned to the post of technical director at Real Madrid. His place as coach will be taken by Benito Floro from the past season's surprise packet Albacete.*

SWEDEN: *Sweden and Denmark reach the semi-finals, each beating England and France respectively by 2-1. Gary Lineker fails to equal Bobby Charlton's 49-goal England record, let alone beat it and his mainstream career ends amid the controversy of a 61st minute substitution.*

Karlheinz Riedle opens the scoring for Germany against Scotland in Norrkoping.

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

BELGIUM: *Ekeren sign the Senegal midfielder* ***Victor Diagne (right)*** *from Daraf.*

GERMANY: *Udo Lattek is appointed new boss of Schalke . . . champions Stuttgart will open the new season at home to Karlsruhe according to the 1992-93 fixture list just issued.*

ITALY: *Zvonimir Boban, one of Milan's seven contracted foreigners, turns down the offer of a loan to Marseille.*

SPAIN: *Real Madrid put on ice their bid for Inter's German striker Jurgen Klinsman.*

SWEDEN: *Holland beat Germany 3-1 but both qualify for the semi-finals since the CIS are beaten 3-0 by Scotland . . . around 200 German fans cause havoc in Gothenburg city centre during the day. Riot police turn out at night to keep the peace . . . UEFA decide that no official statements will be made about the consequences of hooliganism until after the finals . . . Denmark report three injuries: Henrik Andersen, Kent Nielsen and Bent Christensen.*

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

SWEDEN: *Denmark send Bent Christensen home for keyhole surgery on a cartilage injury. Manager Moller Nielsen has yet to decide whether to ask UEFA for permission to call up replacements both for Christensen and for Vilfort (back home because of his daughter's illness) . . . UEFA name Switzerland's Bruno Galler to referee the Euro' 92 Final. Italy's Tulio Lanese will referee Sweden v Germany and Spain's Soriano Aladren will referee Holland v Denmark.*

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

SWEDEN: *UEFA decide to stick with the regulations stipulating penalty shoot-outs if the semi-finals are drawn after extra time. They had considered a late, experimental switch to sudden death . . . UEFA fine both Dutch and German federations for fireworks exploded by fans at the Group Two match . . . Denmark lose the "draw" and will play in their change strip of white against Holland in Gothenburg on Monday.*

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

ARGENTINA: *Goals from Gabriel Batistuta bring Argentina a 2-0 win over Australia before a 13,000 crowd in Buenos Aires. Batistuta's first comes from a penalty after 47 minutes. He scores No. 2 ten minutes later.*

BRAZIL: *In the national championship semi-finals Santos edge one point clear in Group A by defeating Flamengo 1-0. Botafogo stay two points clear of Bragantino in Group B after drawing 1-1 away to their closest rivals.*

SPAIN: *Real Madrid confirm Benito Floro will take over as coach after next weekend's domestic cup final.*

SWEDEN: *Germany win the first semi-final of Euro '92, beating hosts Sweden 3-2 in Stockholm more easily than the scoreline suggests . . . Kim Vilfort returns to join the Denmark squad after visiting his sick daughter in Copenhagen. Kent Nielsen (knee trouble) is reported 60-40 for the semi-final against Holland.*

UKRAINE: *Tavria Simferopol will be Ukraine's first entrants in the European Cup-winners' Cup. They beat Kiev Dynamo 1-0 in the first independent Ukraine Cup Final.*

URUGUAY: *Uruguay beat Australia 2-0 in Montevideo.*

MONDAY, JUNE 22

SWEDEN: *Holland lose on penalties to Denmark after a 2-2 draw in the major shock of Euro '92 in the semi-final in Gothenburg . . . German manager Berti Vogts supervises light morning training at his team's Atvidaberg HQ then gives his players the next day off . . . police report 200 Swedish hooligans having gone on the rampage in Stockholm after the hosts' defeat.*

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

CROATIA: *Inter Zapresic beat HASK Gradjanski 1-0 in the Cup final.*

ITALY: *Inter at last confirm the open secret that Osvaldo Bagnoli, from Genoa, takes over this summer as coach.*

SWEDEN: *Alan Rothenberg, president of the USSF and USA '94, says an announcement will be made next Monday on the venue for the Final of the 1994 World Cup. He also tells a press conference that he is confident about security at the finals and that all matches will be sell-outs . . . Viggo Jensen, manager of the Danish under-21 team, is revealed as favourite to succeed Bob Houghton as Malmo coach at the season's end.*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

SWEDEN: *Morocco take advantage of the media concentration to publicise their bid to win hosting rights for the 1998 World Cup finals. Interior Minister Abdelatif Semlali says Morocco should win the award from FIFA next week because the event has never left Europe and the Americas . . . Euro '92 sponsors Eurocard-MasterCard announce their All-Time European championship team. It is: Yashin, Vogts, Beckenbauer, Baresi, Facchetti, Matthaus, Charlton, Platini, Netzer, Cruyff, Van Basten.*

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

SWEDEN: *Denmark's penalty hero Kim Christofte is wanted by German club Koln. Henrik Larsen has had to delay a holiday in Crete because of Denmark's appearance in the Euro '92 Final . . . UEFA's Congress in Gothenburg agreed: to award the Euro '92 Fair Play award to Holland and hand a special Fair Play award to Scotland's fans: to make available the cash to build a new HQ in Bern; to re-elect most of the executive committee, with the notable exception of controversial Swiss chief Freddy Rumo; to admit Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to membership (pending FIFA admission confirmation next week); to tighten up TV transmission rules preventing federations blocking international coverage for mischievous reasons; to increase the number of official 'international release' dates in the year from three to six.*

SOCCER ON TV

THURSDAY JULY 2
18.30 ..ARGENTINA SOCCER

FRIDAY JULY 3
15.00 ..UNICEF SOCCER MATCH — German All Star Team v Politicians
16.00 ..ARGENTINA SOCCER

SATURDAY JULY 4
13.00 ..ARGENTINA SOCCER 1991/92

SUNDAY JULY 5
00.00 ..UNICEF SOCCER MATCH

THURSDAY JULY 9
21.30 ..ARGENTINA SOCCER

FRIDAY JULY 10
16.00 ..ARGENTINA SOCCER

SATURDAY JULY 11
13.00 ..ARGENTINA SOCCER

THURSDAY JULY 16
18.30 ..ARGENTINA SOCCER

FRIDAY JULY 17
16.00 ..ARGENTINA SOCCER

SATURDAY JULY 18
13.00 ..ARGENTINA SOCCER

SKY SPORTS

WEDNESDAY 1 JULY
13.00 ..THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW

FRIDAY 3 JULY
22.30 ..EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP

SATURDAY 4 JULY
09.00 ..EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP

MONDAY 6 JULY
20.30 ..GLORY DAYS: The best moments of the 1991-92 soccer season.

TUESDAY 7 JULY
14.00 ..GLORY DAYS
21.00 ..THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW

WEDNESDAY 8 JULY
14.00 ..THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW

THURSDAY 9 JULY
09.30 ..THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW

FRIDAY 10 JULY
09.30 ..THE GLORY DAYS
24.00 ..EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP

MONDAY 13 JULY
20.30 ..GLORY DAYS

TUESDAY 14 JULY
13.00 ..THE GLORY DAYS
21.00 ..THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW

WEDNESDAY 15 JULY
12.30 ..THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW
20.00 ..BRAZILIAN CUP FINAL: 1st leg
24.30 ..BRAZILIAN CUP FINAL: See 20.00.

THURSDAY 16 JULY
09.30 ..THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW
13.00 ..BRAZILIAN CUP FINAL: 1st leg.

FRIDAY 17 JULY
09.30 ..GLORY DAYS
23.00 ..EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP

SATURDAY 18 JULY
09.00 ..EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP
02.00 ..EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP

MONDAY 20 JULY
20.30 ...GLORY DAYS

TUESDAY 21 JULY
15.00 ..THE GLORY DAYS
21.00 ..THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW

WEDNESDAY 22 JULY
12.00 ..THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW
20.00 ..BRAZILIAN CUP FINAL: 2nd leg
24.30 ..BRAZILIAN CUP FINAL: See 20.00

THURSDAY 23 JULY
16.00 ..BRAZILIAN CUP FINAL: 2nd leg.

FRIDAY 24 JULY
09.30 ..THE GLORY DAYS
01.00 ..EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP

SATURDAY 25 JULY
09.00 ..EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP

BOB **PATEMAN**

looks at the history of Olympic soccer

On the podium, Hungary (1), Czechoslovakia (2) and East Germany (3) in 1964.

Trying to stay constant in a changing world

FOR many years the Olympic soccer tournament was treated as a minor event, of no real international importance.

For the western nations there was little personal interest, with the amateur teams who entered proving to be little more than canon fodder for East European sides fielding their full-time squads.

The very volume of sport taking place over the three-week spell meant that public perception of the football tournament was limited to a few minutes of televised highlights.

Despite this lack of interest shown in the west, it would be historically inaccurate to dismiss the role the Olympics played, and continues to play, in the development of soccer.

Interest

Possibly by 1912, and certainly by 1920, the team winning the Olympic title could quite justifiably claim to be champions of the world. Indeed the Olympics tournament retained similar status to the World Cup until 1948.

The first modern Olympics were staged in 1896 but soccer had to wait until 1900 — and Paris — to make its debut as a demonstration sport. Britain, represented by Upton Park, beat France for the "title".

Even at this relatively late date, the Olympic soccer tournament attracted little interest, but outside Britain soccer was still a strange and foreign activity. Indeed, even as late as 1912, the Olympic committee debated whether soccer was popular enough to deserve a place in the timetable.

In 1904 the Olympics went to America, and a soccer tournament was staged in St Louis, which attracted three North American schools. There is, however, some doubt as to whether this was an official Olympic tournament.

In 1908 the London Olympic committee, keen to give a good demonstration of their national sport, scraped together six teams for the tournament, and Britain won what is considered the first true Olympic title.

Denmark, however, put up a spirited fight, and Soplus Nielsen had the distinction of scoring 10 goals in one game.

By 1912 there was real growth in the tournament. Eleven teams entered, and it might have been more if France and Belgium had not withdrawn, or if Bohemia had been accepted.

Britain won their first two games 7-0 and 4-0, but Denmark were equally impressive and lost the final only 4-2, despite injuries to some key players.

Britain were beating the rest of the world without any professionals, and these Olympic victories, in addition to tours by the great amateur sides, helped to create the belief in British soccer invincibility.

Action from the Israel v Guatemala match in 1976

The Great War interrupted the Olympic schedule, but the first postwar tournament, Antwerp 1920, was the biggest yet.

Despite the absence of the defeated powers, the field rose to 14 teams, with Egypt the first non-European nation to take part in a major international soccer tournament.

In 1920 England's amateurs found the world had caught up with them, and they were eliminated in the first game, by Norway. In the end, however, Belgium, an early centre of the game, defeated Czechoslovakia in the final.

This was a match of bad temper and poor sportsmanship that went against Olympic principles. In the end the Czechs walked off after Belgium's second goal and were disqualified.

Britain now disputed the definition of an amateur, and had trouble over payments for time lost from work. Before the next tournament they withdrew from both the Olympics and FIFA.

The absence of Britain for the 1924 Olympics was largely forgotten in the excitement caused by the appearance of the first South Americans.

Uruguay came to the tournament not really knowing if their success in South American tournaments made them a match for the European "masters" of the game. Once the tournament started, they thrilled the crowds and dominated the proceedings.

The individual skill level, the careful passing and the imagination shown by the Uruguayan team had not been seen before in Europe.

Four years later Uruguay were back and winning the tournament again. This time Argentina followed their example, sailed the Atlantic, and returned with silver medals.

Soccer was not staged in the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics — a blow to the tournament's prestige at a time when

PREVIOUS OLYMPIC FOOTBALL MEDALLISTS

Year	Gold		Silver	Bronze	Hosts
1896	Denmark		Greece		Athens*
1900	**Great Britain**	**4 v 0**	**France**		**Paris***
1904	Canada	4 v 0	United States		St Louis**
1908	**Great Britain**	**2 v 0**	**Denmark**	**Holland**	**London**
1912	Great Britain	4 v 2	Denmark	Holland	Stockholm
1920	**Belgium**		**Spain**	**Holland**	**Antwerp*** **
1924	Uruguay	3 v 0	Switzerland	Sweden	Paris
1928	**Uruguay**	**1 v 1 (2 v 1)**	**Argentina**	**Italy**	**Amsterdam**
1936	Italy	2 v 1	Austria	Norway	Berlin
1948	**Sweden**	**3 v 1**	**Yugoslavia**	**Denmark**	**London**
1952	Hungary	2 v 0	Yugoslavia	Sweden	Helsinki
1956	**Soviet Union**	**1 v 0**	**Yugoslavia**	**Bulgaria**	**Melbourne**
1960	Yugoslavia	3 v 1	Denmark	Hungary	Rome
1964	**Hungary**	**2 v 1**	**Czechoslovakia**	**East Germany**	**Tokyo**
1968	Hungary	4 v 1	Bulgaria	Japan	Mexico City
1972	**Poland**	**2 v 1**	**Hungary**	**E Germany/USSR°**	**Munich**
1976	East Germany	3 v 1	Poland	Soviet Union	Montreal
1980	**Czechoslovakia**	**1 v 0**	**East Germany**	**Soviet Union**	**Moscow**
1984	France	2 v 0	Brazil	Yugoslavia	Los Angeles
1988	**Soviet Union**	**2 v 1**	**Brazil**	**West Germany**	**Seoul**

* = unofficial tournament.
** = unofficial tournament, but gold medal later awarded by IOC.
*** = Belgium met Czechoslovakia in the final which was abandoned when the Czechs (losing 2-0) walked off. Spain were awarded the silver medal and Holland the bronze.
° = shared bronze medal.

Noldner scores for East Germany against Czechoslovakia in Tokyo in 1964.

the World Cup had arrived as a new rival — but was again a major attraction at the Berlin Games.

Europe was now deeply involved in the era of "master race" madness. Germany and Italy were both determined to use sport to demonstrate the glory of their political systems.

Norway, who had ended England's dominance a few years before, now scored an even more noticeable victory, defeating Germany 2-0.

Italy, under the guidance of Vittorio Pozzo, assured there would be a fascist celebration in the best-attended tournament yet.

China, with their own hopes of staging the Olympics in the near future, made the long trek to Europe, but were eliminated in the first round.

Japan also went to Berlin, and surprisingly beat Sweden, before being crushed by Italy. Peru were the sole South American representatives — Uruguay and Argentina had had enough of losing their best stars to European clubs and stayed away.

As the teams departed from Berlin, many players must have wondered if the world would get through the next four years without another war. As it was, both the 1940 and 1944 Olympics were lost, and much of the world was still recovering when the 1948 Olympics returned to London.

International

The South American nations were again absent, but India, Egypt, China and even Afghanistan made this a truly international event.

The winners, Sweden, had remained neutral during the war, and were in a strong position to do well. There was no professional football in that country to take away their top stars. These advantages, however, should not detract from the fact that this was a particularly talented team, many of whom were to go on to play in Italy.

Yugoslavia, their opponents in the final, were the first of the "full time but amateur" sides from East Europe.

Their team of so-called students and civil servants demonstrated many new tactics, such as slow and careful short passing, and more fluid exchange of positions. They have never been fully credited with the influence they were to have on the Hungarians and other great teams to follow.

The East European dominance of soccer, hinted at by Yugoslavia, started in earnest four years later with Hungary's victory in Helsinki.

This was the team of Bozsik, Hidegkuti, Kocsis, Puskas and Czibor, and their Olympic victory was a triumph in its own right, but it is also the first tournament considered as a warm-up for the "real test" of the World Cup.

East European dominance of Olympic soccer certainly was not complete. The Scandinavians, where amateur soccer was still the rule, remained a force. Sweden took third place, and Denmark were in the quarter-finals.

The 1956 Olympics brought the Soviets to Melbourne, at a time when their huge country was a mystery to the rest of the world.

Now, with rumours of sport schools and government-supported teams, there seemed the very real possibility that the Soviets would dominate.

With Yashin in goal the team did indeed win the Olympics, but it was to prove an isolated success.

Poland were Olympic champions in 1972 with a team including Gorgon, Lubanski, Szymczak, Lato and Deyna. This Olympic squad went on to mount a serious challenge for the World Cup.

The East German team who took the title in 1976 were the greatest that country ever put together, and their own Olympic success cannot be seen in isolation from the 1974 World Cup and their victory over West Germany.

Influential

The Olympics always had a major part to play in the developing influential and successful national teams.

Neither was the Olympic influence limited to East Europe. Unlike the World Cup, where the rest of the world has had to fight to get recognition, the Olympics always gave more berths to third world nations.

Algeria, one of the great African forces in the 1980s, gained their first international experience at the Moscow Olympics. Iraq and Kuwait were at that tournament, laying the groundwork for later World Cup success.

Iran were in the 1976 Montreal competition. Remember how well that same squad did in Argentina two years later?

With the erosion of amateur rules — led ironically by the track and field stars — the football tournament had to go "open" but in what form? Nobody wanted to see the Olympics grow into a second World Cup.

There was no place for that in an event already too big to handle, and there was already too much pressure on the top players.

In this light, the age limit is a reasonable suggestion, fitting in well with the growth of junior and youth World championships and putting all the nations in the Olympics on an equal footing.

But age restrictions cause problems. Nations have lied over the age of their players in other events. There will be temptations to do so at the Olympics.

The system also means that Africa, and the poorer Asian nations, have to face the burden of yet another qualifying tournament.

Most of all, the age rule relegates the Olympics to a minor tournament that will attract only limited interest.

Olympic soccer has opted for a route that will keep the biggest stars away.

Barcelona '92

Spain look to Olympic hopefuls

THE Spaniards are fervently hoping that their Olympic team will succeed in firing the public imagination which the full Spanish team has so dismally failed to stimulate in recent times.

The soccer tournament, in its new Under-23 format has received an underwhelming response from the fans and ticket sales have been reduced to minimal percentages of the seats available, with sponsors and other companies accounting for most of those.

To make matters worse, the qualifying phases have thrown up surprises and have eliminated many of the best box-office bets.

South America's crowd-pullers Argentina and Brazil have been ousted by Colombia and Paraquay, while Australia eliminated Holland on the away goals rule.

The upshot of it all is a decaffeinated tournament where, with all the respect in the world, matches such as Egypt v Qatar or Morocco v Korea at Under-23 level are *unlikely to fill Spanish stadiums.*

Unreliable

The Spaniards and their much-criticised coach Vicente Miera have high hopes of landing the gold medal but, aware that support in Catalonia for the Spanish national team is unreliable, have wisely opted to set up shop in Valencia. It is possible that they would only set foot in Barcelona to play the final.

Miera complains that Spanish clubs are so low in "blooding" youngsters that there is little to choose from in the Under-23 age group — and few of those are regular first-teamers for their clubs.

Only the Atletico Madrid defender Roberto Solozabal and the Barcelona pair of Jose Guadiola and Albert Ferrer are automatic choices. Others, such as Real Madrid's Alfonso and Luis Enrique, are talented but lack experience.

Their main rivals in Group B should be the Colombians led by Italy-bound players Ivan Valenciano and Fausto Asprilla.

Elsewhere, Lothar Osiander deserves praise for the USA's convincing qualifying display which adds to the growing credibility of the 1994 World Cup hosts.

They are "rewarded" with a place in the inaugural match in the Nou Camp on the day before the Games officially start — a manoeuvre necessary to fit 32 games into the Olympic schedule.

Their opponents will be Italy, whose 60-year-old coach Cesare Maldini plans to persevere with the Under-21 side which recently overcame Sweden 2-1 to take the European Championship.

Apart from the US, Italy will take on a Polish side which, somewhat erratically, produced spells of good football during the qualifiers.

In Group C, Morocco (0-6) and Korea (2-3) have both been defeated in recent friendlies against Spain, suggesting that Paraguay and Sweden will start as favourites.

Ghana, if their definitive squad is based on the Under-17 world champions, will start in pole position in Group D, with Denmark, Mexico and Australia in contention for the other quarter-final place.

GRAHAM **TURNER**

DRAW FOR THE FINAL TOURNAMENT

First Round

Group A
24.07.92 Italy v United States *(Barcelona)*
24.07.92 Poland v Kuwait *(Zaragoza)*
27.07.92 Italy v Poland *(Barcelona)*
27.07.92 United States v Kuwait *(Zaragoza)*
29.07.92 Italy v Kuwait *(Barcelona)*
29.07.92 United States v Poland *(Zaragoza)*

Group B
26.07.92 Ghana v Holland or Australia *(Sabadell)*
26.07.92 Denmark v Mexico *(Zaragoza)*
28.07.92 Mexico v Australia *(Barcelona)*
28.07.92 Denmark v Ghana *(Zaragoza)*
30.07.92 Mexico v Ghana *(Sabadell)*
30.07.92 Denmark v Australia *(Zaragoza)*

Group C
24.07.92 Spain v Colombia *(Valencia)*
24.07.92 Egypt v Qatar *(Sabadell)*
27.07.92 Spain v Egypt *(Valencia)*
27.07.92 Colombia v Qatar *(Sabadell)*
29.07.92 Spain v Qatar *(Valencia)*
29.07.92 Colombia v Egypt *(Sabadell)*

Group D
26.07.92 Sweden v Paraguay *(Barcelona)*
26.07.92 Morocco v South Korea *(Valencia)*
28.07.92 Paraguay v South Korea *(Valencia)*
28.07.92 Sweden v Morocco *(Sabadell)*
30.07.92 Sweden v South Korea *(Barcelona)*
30.07.92 Paraguay v Morocco *(Valencia)*

Quarter-finals
01.08.92 Winner Gp A v Runner-up Gp B *(Barcelona)*
01.08.92 Winner Gp B v Runner-up Gp A *(Valencia)*
02.08.92 Winner Gp C v Runner-up Gp D *(Barcelona)*
02.08.92 Winner Gp D v Runner-up Gp C *(Zaragoza)*

Semi-finals
05.08.92 Winner q-f 1 v Winner q-f 3 *(Barcelona)*
05.08.92 Winner q-f 2 v Winner q-f 4 *(Valencia)*

Third place play-off
07.08.92 Semi-final losers *(Barcelona)*

Final
08.08.92 Semi-final winners *(Barcelona)*

ITALY BY PADDY AGNEW

Sacchi's squad are football's Lebanon

YEARS ago, an Italian acquaintance, on learning that I intended to cover Italian soccer, told me in a voice full of concern: "I hope you realise that nothing, but nothing, is taken more seriously in this country than soccer."

Those words of advice came to mind recently when witnessing the flood of criticism which greeted Italy's unimpressive performances in the end-of-season quadrangular US Cup '92, also involving the US, Portugal and Ireland.

A 0-0 draw with Portugal, a 2-0 win over Ireland and a 1-1 draw with the host country sparked off such unfavourable Italian media comment that national team coach Arrigo Sacchi spoke of a "Nuremburg Trial" of summary judgements.

Even Italian Federation President Antonio Matarrese, on his arrival at the European Championship in Sweden felt compelled to refute the criticisms, saying that Sacchi and his team had become a footballing Lebanon, where everybody "feels entitled to take a pot shot at them." The curious thing about all the fuss is that the US Cup '92 was a non-event.

Problems . . . Sacchi (left) and Baiano.

Ireland's Jack Charlton only took his team along after having asked the players if they wanted to go. When Ireland got there, Charlton and his players treated the event in an unusually laid-back manner, both on and off the pitch.

In Italy, however, things are different. Every match the Azzurri play is only slightly less important than the last World Cup final. Expectations are always high. Analysis is always intense.

In truth, the exaggerated response of both Sacchi and Matarrese tells its own story.

While Matarrese pleads for Sacchi to be allowed time to get his act together, time to experiment, choose the backbone of his side and then familiarise his players with his unusually (for an Italian coach) attack-oriented mentality, he knows only too well that the initial "honeymoon" period since Sacchi took over last November is fast coming to an end.

Having initially turned to the rump of the Milan side which he coached for four years until last summer (Donadoni, Evani, Maldini, Costacurta, Franco Baresi and even the ageing Ancelotti), Sacchi has since experimented with defenders such as Mannini of Sampdoria and Carboni of AS Roma, midfielder Zola of Napoli and the Foggia strikers Baiano and Signori (now with Lazio).

For the time being, though, it remains unclear whether Zola for example will be asked to cohabit in midfield with Roberto Baggio, or Baiano with Vialli in attack.

Sacchi says that he has his ideal team already well mapped out in his head. Doubtless Baresi, Maldini and Costacurta in defence, Baggio, Evani and Eranio in midfield and Vialli in attack form part of that side.

Early

For the time being however not only does the rest of the side remain a matter of some conjecture but also the new Italian team's overall attitude still falls far short of the hard-working, hard-running game required by Sacchi.

At one of his first training sessions as national coach, Sacchi scared the life out of some famous names by screaming: "There are people here who are not helping me. I need people to help me."

Although Sacchi took over last November, it is worth remembering that these are still early days in his international managerial career.

At a similar stage in his first season with Milan, Sacchi had seen his side eliminated from European competition and he was being confidently tipped for a pre-Christmas sacking.

Sacchi proved that prediction wrong, ending that Ruud Gullit inspired 1987-88 season by winning the Italian championship.

He may still prove his Italian critics wrong.

SWITZERLAND

First title for Sion

FC SION, from the French-speaking part of Switzerland, won the League championship title for the first time in their 83-year history. Before the decisive match against Xamax Neutchatel, Sion's honorary president Andrew Luisier said with tears in his eyes: "If you win today, then it will be the happiest day of my life".

The players obliged, but the architect of their triumph is leaving the club. Enzo Trossero 38, a former Argentine international, has done wonders with this modest outfit. Last year they won the Cup and finished runners-up in the League, now Cup quarter-finalists and champions.

Nonetheless, the South American has made many enemies in Switzerland and now he is going home with his family who never really settled down in this country. His critics claim that Sion play unattractive and defensive football. But Trossero retorts: "I am proud of what I have achieved in my career. As a player I won eight League championships, as manager the Cup and championship. It may be true that my team didn't play brilliant football, but we were successful with our style. It is very difficult to play against us, because we are so well organised."

The Argentine has also made headlines with his rows with referees, while the club has had to pay his fines. He is also criticised for overworking his players in training. But as he points out: "We have not suffered any serious injuries, so my methods must be right."

Sadly the champions will have to be rejuvenated for next season, because several players are of senior age, while junior talents have been neglected. Trossero himself will be replaced by the veteran former international Jean-Paul Brigger.

GERMANY BY ARTHUR ROTMIL

Stuttgart's surprise success

VfB STUTTGART confounded the experts when they won their fourth championship title in dramatic style, and for the second time thanks to better goal difference.

Six weeks before the season ended most experts were convinced that the title race would be decided in a straight duel between Eintracht Frankfurt and Borussia Dortmund.

Last year, at the start of the League campaign, Dortmund's team manager, Ottmar Hitzfeld, was the only one among the 20 First Division "Trainers" who picked Stuttgart to win the championship.

But nobody could have foreseen such an exciting finish. Going into the last day three clubs, Frankfurt, Dortmund and Stuttgart, were level on points and all had to play away. Three teams were still chasing the two remaining UEFA Cup places, while four clubs were fighting to avoid relegation. With a 38-match schedule, it was the longest League programme in the history of German football.

This was caused by the automatic promotion of two clubs from East Germany, raising the First Division from 18 to 20 teams, albeit for one season only. Now four have been relegated and only two promoted; this contingent will probably be reduced to 16 clubs for 1993-94.

But such a finale has never been experienced before in the 29-year history of the Bundesliga. As Dortmund's chief Hitzfeld observed: "Not even Alfred Hitchcock could have devised a more suspenseful scenario."

The enlarged First Division contributed to a new attendance record which, for the first time, exceeded eight million. The average gates were the best for thirteen years. The figure was 23,640 compared with 20,716 the season before. The record dates from 1964-65 with 27,693, when the Bundesliga comprised only 16 clubs. This time a total of 8,983,102 spectators was registered — last year in an 18 team-league it was 6,339,201.

Earned

Stuttgart deserved their title for they had to come from behind at Bayer Leverkusen and finished with ten men when the former East German international Matthias Sammer was sent off. The players earned their record bonus of £14,000 each; they may not have played the most attractive, but certainly the most effective football and they had the stronger nerves when it mattered.

In the final analysis their success was due to three principal factors. Firstly, excellent management with president Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder, a Minister for Culture in the state of Baden-Wurttemberg and also chief of the League's executive committee, who has exercised considerable influence on the club and players.

In collaboration with general manager Dieter Hoeness, the younger brother of Uli, the Bayern Munich chief. Dieter managed to hold on to several key players in face of approaches from other wealthier clubs.

Triumph . . . Stuttgart president Mayer-Vorfelder and coach Daum.

Secondly, team manager Christoph Daum, an excellent coach, though a controversial figure. Daum has often been at odds with the media who called him "big mouth", since he boasted he was "the best team manager in the Bundesliga".

Yet, having been an average player, he never won anything as manager either — until now. After spending 17 years at Koln, Daum was fired unexpectedly — "the biggest blow to my pride" he complained, at the time.

Now Stuttgart are grateful that they snapped him up 18 months ago.

Thirdly, the outstanding players. Like Guido Buchwald, a World Cup winner, an uncompromising man-marker in defence, a real captain. Goalkeeper Eike Immel, who won 19 caps, but then withdrew from the national squad because he refused to sit on the bench, even occasionally. The tough defender Michael Frontzeck, who after 16 internationals was dropped four years ago, but is now back in the fold.

And that extraordinary striker Fritz Walter, who finished top scorer in the League with 22 goals. He bears one of the most famous names in German football. The former Kaiserslautern and national team captain Fritz Walter (no relation) led the West Germans to their first World Cup triumph, in 1954.

When Stuttgart's current hero was born, the midwife from Kaiserslautern suggested, that a Walter can only be christened Fritz — and the parents agreed!

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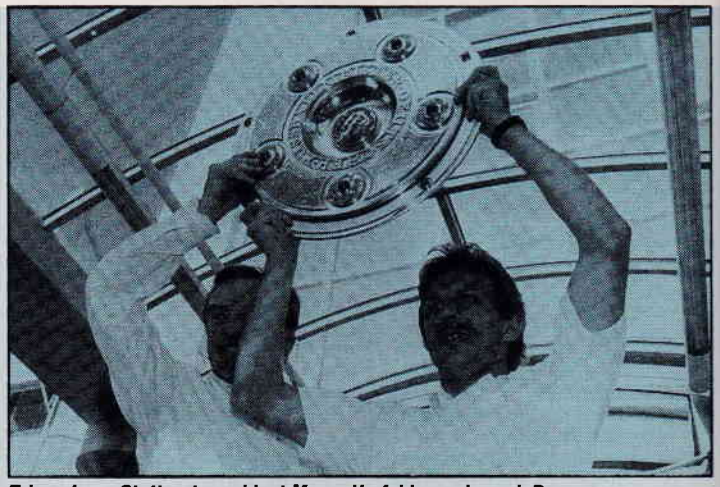
The enlarged First Division contributed to a new attendance record which, for the first time, exceeded eight million. The average gates were the best for thirteen years. The figure was 23,640 compared with 20,716 the season before. The record dates from 1964-65 with 27,693, when the Bundesliga comprised only 16 clubs. This time a total of 8,983,102 spectators was registered — last year in an 18 team-league it was 6,339,201.

Earned

Stuttgart deserved their title for they had to come from behind at Bayer Leverkusen and finished with ten men when the former East German international Matthias Sammer was sent off. The players earned their record bonus of £14,000 each; they may not have played the most attractive, but certainly the most effective football and they had the stronger nerves when it mattered.

In the final analysis their success was due to three principal factors. Firstly, excellent management with president Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder, a Minister for Culture in the state of Baden-Wurttemberg and also chief of the League's executive committee, who has exercised considerable influence on the club and players.

In collaboration with general manager Dieter Hoeness, the younger brother of Uli, the Bayern Munich chief. Dieter managed to hold on to several key players in face of approaches from other wealthier clubs.



Triumph . . . Stuttgart president Mayer-Vorfelder and coach Daum.

Secondly, team manager Christoph Daum, an excellent coach, though a controversial figure. Daum has often been at odds with the media who called him "big mouth", since he boasted he was "the best team manager in the Bundesliga".

Yet, having been an average player, he never won anything as manager either — until now. After spending 17 years at Koln, Daum was fired unexpectedly — "the biggest blow to my pride" he complained, at the time.

Now Stuttgart are grateful that they snapped him up 18 months ago.

Thirdly, the outstanding players. Like Guido Buchwald, a World Cup winner, an uncompromising man-marker in defence, a real captain. Goalkeeper Eike Immel, who won 19 caps, but then withdrew from the national squad because he refused to sit on the bench, even occasionally. The tough defender Michael Frontzeck, who after 16 internationals was dropped four years ago, but is now back in the fold.

And that extraordinary striker Fritz Walter, who finished top scorer in the League with 22 goals. He bears one of the most famous names in German football. The former Kaiserslautern and national team captain Fritz Walter (no relation) led the West Germans to their first World Cup triumph, in 1954.

When Stuttgart's current hero was born, the midwife from Kaiserslautern suggested, that a Walter can only be christened Fritz — and the parents agreed!

FRANCE BY ANDRE DUCLOS

Gress shows them, again

STRASBOURG are well and truly up. One more triumph in the long, sometimes stormy, often controversial career of Gilbert Gress.

"I've nothing more to prove," he typically remarked. "This makes 17 years in which I've been practising this profession, and my worst place was seventh last year with Geneva.

"Before, I have been champion of France, champion of Switzerland, quarter-finalist in the European Cup. But it's true that this season the pressure was stronger. With Gress, people don't imagine anything but Strasbourg in the First Division. But it's not enough to say it. You have to do it, you have to act!"

This Strasbourg certainly did in the second leg of the play-off, at home to Rennes, whom they beat by a resounding 4-1. Two of the goals came from the midfielder, Pailard, who happened also to be the only Strasbourg player booked.

Another goal was scored by the resourceful Nigerian international stopper, Stephen Keshi; a bullet from over 30 yards which restored his team's lead, after Rennes had equalised through Le Dizet.

This might have seemed small beer for Keshi, who previously played for Anderlecht, and is used to operating in front of hysterically partisan crowds in Lagos when Nigeria play at home. Not a bit of it. "This evening was like the European Cup," he said. "This crowd — incredible! When you get that sort of support, you really want to play!"

Keshi, like most of the team, was plainly fed up with the Second Division.

But better that than to disappear altogether, as poor Reims have done. And with such a pathetically muted send-off. Difficult to believe that this was the club who once gloried in the presence of such as Raymond Kopa and Just Fontaine.

Reims, crushed by debts, slid into Division Three last season. Robert Ravillon gave what appeared to be the kiss of life, but found the financial burdens too much for him. Last October he was succeeded by Jacques Dham, but he too was unable to turn the inexorable tide. In February, Reims had no money left to pay their way, and doom seemed inevitable.

Creative

The judicial "liquidation" was announced in May. And even the leading football magazine could give that dire news but a brief mention on an obscure inside page.

Reims had won the French Championship six times, the Cup twice.

Now they are gone . . . while the transfer market buzzes. By the time you read this, Trevor Steven and Chris Waddle will no doubt have followed Papin and Pele out of Marseille, where Bernard Tapie is rebuilding the team in an orgy of what you might call creative destruction. If you were charitable.

The Nantes midfielder, Eydelie, will be arriving, though this is hardly a big name. So, all being well, will the gifted Croatian midfielder Zvonomir Boban, from Bari where he was on loan; part of the deal which takes Papin to Milan.

Boban, for all his talents, is something of an unknown quantity, and recently he had jaundice.

Marseille will be under new management. Tomislav Ivic, who lost his seat on the bench early this season after Tapie, characteristically, had acquired him, following the loss of the Champions' Cup Final, is returning to Benfica, where he once had a very brief spell.

Graham Rix leaves Le Havre after happy if declining years in French football, beginning with Caen. His technique and his elegant left foot, plus the somewhat less combative nature of French soccer as compared with English, have enabled him to last longer than even he may originally have thought. Back to England, now.

One of the best captures appears to have been made by Toulouse, who have acquired Pavel Nemecek, the excellent Czechoslovakian international midfielder, from Sparta Prague.

In the wet . . . Strasbourg coach Gilbert Gress takes the plunge in a good cause, celebrating his club's promotion to the French First Division.

AUSTRIA

Prohaska's faith pays off

AUSTRIAN football, recently criticised at all levels for its poor standards, rewarded its faithful fans with an exceptionally exciting finish to the championship. Three teams were jointly topping the table going into the last round, FK Austria, Tirol and Austria Salzburg.

In a direct duel FK Austria beat Salzburg by 2-1 before an enthralled crowd of over 40,000 in Vienna's Prater stadium. For FK it was their 21st title and a marvellous moment for the former international midfielder and now team manager Herbert Prohaska.

He was completely vindicated by sticking with the three Lithuanians, Ivanauskas, Narbekovas and Fridrikas, and the reclaiming of the striker Andy Ogris from Spain.

Admira Wacka had a run of 17 home wins, mainly thanks to the East German Olaf Marschall, a lethal finisher. His compatriot Uwe Muller as a defensive pillar, also contributed to the run of success. Great credit is also due to the manager, the former German international Siggi Held, whose contract has just been extended by another year.

Meanwhile FC Tirol's chief, another German Horst Hrubesch, was celebrating a 5-0 win over Salzburg. The "Austrianer" lost their striker Willfurth, when he was sent off. Tirol's substitute Peter Pacult hit a hat-trick. But in the next match Tirol crashed to FK Austria by 3-0 and Hrubesch then decided that he would leave the club at the end of the season. He will be succeeded by the Slovenian Branko Elsner, until now youth coach at FK Austria.

The national team slumped to two defeats. First, unexpectedly, to erratic Poland in Salzburg by 4-2, then to European Championship finalists Holland by 3-2 in Sittard. Not a good omen before the World Cup qualifiers next season.

HUNGARY BY BRIAN O'SULLIVAN

Ferencvaros back on top

A CLOSING run of 14 wins and three draws in the last 17 games gave Ferencvaros the Hungarian title for the 24th time — but the first since 1981.

Two goals by Laszio Wukovics gave them victory at Diosgyor and left Vac in second place, a point behind.

The defending champions, Kispest-Honved, finished third, three points back.

The club have now been taken over by a Belgian entrepreneur, Louis De Vries, and his partner Laszio Balint, a former Hungarian international and national team manager.

Ferencvaros, coached by Tibor Nyilasi, owed much of their success to wily midfielder Imre Fodor, who was signed from Siofok in time to play a large part in that remarkable closing sequence.

Diosgyor, Haladas, Tatabanya and Zalaegeszeg are the four clubs to be relegated.

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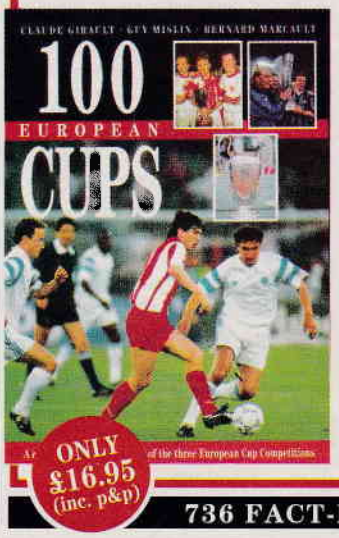

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SPAIN BY GRAHAM TURNER

Real fall at the final hurdle

Barsa take the title . . . but Toshack takes the praise

Toshack . . . has worked miracles.

8.40PM ON JUNE 7TH. Real Madrid were 2-1 up in Tenerife. Their two points made Barcelona's 2-0 advantage over Athletic Bilbao irrelevant.

Suddenly, a Felipe shot is booted into his own net by Real's Brazilian defender Ricardo Rocha. Barely a minute later, the Real goalkeeper Paco Buyo is caught out by a lofted back pass and can do no better than palm the ball against the bar and Pier, following up, taps the ball home.

Tenerife 3, Real Madrid 2 and Barcelona, who had not topped the table all season, were champions.

The week had not been exactly a sea of tranquillity. When Barcelona headed for Wembley to play Sampdoria in the Champions' Cup Final they had been lagging behind Real with a vastly inferior goal difference.

But 15 goals in four matches soon put that to rights. As a result, Real needed only to win their last match in Tenerife to secure the title. If not, Barcelona, by obtaining one point more at home to Athletic Bilbao, would snatch the League title.

Aided

Barcelona were quick to smell rats. Their president Josep Lluis Nunez was quick to suspect that Tenerife's manager Jorge Valdano would not be keen to put one across his former club.

Other ex-Real players, such as goalkeeper Agustin, he added, might not be prepared to give their all. Agustin suggested that Nunez insert his words in a portion of his anatomy.

The Atletico Madrid president Jesus Gil was (surprise, surprise) eloquent in his belief that Real, aided by referee Raul Garcia de Loza, would win 5-1. The referee felt obliged to state publicly that he is "neither a poofter nor a Real Madrid fan".

Real, in the meantime, were not slow to point out that Barcelona striker Julio Salinas had a brother, Patxi, in the Athletic Bilbao side due to play their last fixture in the Nou Camp.

And the exchanges of niceties were by no means restricted to life at the top. With UEFA Cup, relegation and play-off issues also going to the wire, suspicions that weighty attache cases would be ferried around Spain rapidly gained currency. Several managers — among them Atletico Madrid's Luis Aragones — stated publicly that they were in favour of bonuses offered to third parties.

The whole lot seemed irrelevant when a header from Fernando Hierro and a tremendous shot from "Gica" Hagi put Real 2-0 up in Tenerife after 28 minutes while Barcelona were struggling against Bilbao.

Then Quique Estibaranz scored for Tenerife after 36 minutes and Hristo Stoichkov put Barcelona ahead a minute later. The Bulgarian, who at the time of writing is still torn between affection for Barcelona and £800,000-a-year offers from Paris St. Germain, Fiorentina and Napoli, added the second after 49 minutes.

Immediately after Real had Javier Villarroya sent off came those two Tenerife goals in a minute which sent the Nou Camp absolutely wild. This is only the fourth time that Barcelona have managed to win two consecutive League titles, and suddenly the 1991-92 campaign goes down in history as the most memorable event in the life of the Catalan club.

Played

Johan Cruyff was his usual philosophical self, remarking only that the League title had gone to the side who had played the best football.

Outside Barcelona, now set to continue the celebrations right through the Olympic Games, it was bad news. Other clubs had been banking on a Real Madrid triumph which would have given Spain two teams in the European Cup and opened up another UEFA Cup place.

One team unaffected by the final turn-around was John Toshack's Real Sociedad.

Tail-enders with one point and no goals from their first five games, the San Sebastian side finished fifth and guaranteed a UEFA Cup place next season.

"I have no doubt that Real Sociedad are the team of the season," says Javier Clemente, a manager loathe to praise the achievements of foreign coaches.

"Toshack has worked with youngsters from the youth scheme and has produced a miracle. He has proved beyond all shadow of doubt that he is an outstanding coach."

In the event, Clemente took Espanol to San Sebastian and achieved the 1-1 draw which ensured First Division survival for a side who had looked doomed until he took over.

The result left Mallorca and Valladolid — after 13 years in the top flight — relegated, while Deportivo La Coruna and Cadiz were left to battle with Figueras and Betis in the play-offs.

Celta and Rayo Vallecano (bank-rolled by picturesque industrialist Jose Maria Ruiz Mateos) return to the First Division.

The other success story belongs to the Atletico Madrid striker Manolo who, with 27 goals, became one of the few home-grown strikers to make off with the Pichichi award for the League's top scorer.

The sob story, obviously, belongs to Real Madrid, the League leaders from the starting gun to a few yards from the tape. What's more, their final debacle in Tenerife sparked off serious street riots provoked by their notorious Ultra Sur supporters, whose trip to the Canaries was subsidised by the club.

The Real president Ramon Mendoza had said before the game: "If we lose we are dead". The obituary includes a mention of the £5m lost by the failure to qualify for the European Cup and, at the time of writing, the signing of Jurgen Klinsmann from Inter Milan was rapidly put on ice pending a re-think of the club's future.

Two goals in a minute mean that, at the moment, Spanish football is being dominated by Futbol Club Barcelona.

What a difference a day makes.

Bilbao's Lacabeg (right), closely marked by Barcelona's Stoichkov.

Bilbao goalkeeper Quique dives bravely at the feet of Barcelona's Amor during Barsa's 2-0 victory.

PORTUGAL BY ALBERTO DA SILVA

Careca stays with Sporting

SPORTING LISBON are clearly determined to do something about their decline.

Bobby Robson's arrival to take over as the new manager is being seen as a big step in the right direction.

Sousa Cintra, the president, said: "It is time to say enough is enough!"

He has been working very hard indeed in order to make funds available for new signings, and has persuaded his new manager to retain the Brazilian Careca.

Robson says: "Careca is a great player but he needs to lose weight, 10 pounds at least, or he had better move into wrestling."

Sousa Cintra has involved himself in the battle for Joao Pinto II, the Boavista international, and signed a declaration of intent concerning the transfer. Then Major Valtentim Loureiro, the strong man of Boavista, was seen in Lisbon with Jorge de Brito, Benfica's president, and another declaration of intent was signed. Joao Pinto II, in the US with the national team, said: "What about me? Have they all forgotten that the last word will be mine?" He later signed for Benfica.

Mozer, the Brazilian central defender who left Benfica a few years ago and went to Marseille is to return to Portugal, with Benfica the favourites to sign him again.

Joao Pinto II . . . moving to Benfica.

Tomislav Ivic, the new manager, faces many difficulties at the Stadium of Light. "I am used to living under pressure," he says. "Without pressure, life would not make any sense to me."

A great life of great pressure is awaiting Mr Ivic.

HOLLAND BY SIMON KUPER

Ajax lose key pair

PSV must be favourites for next season's Dutch championship, now that Ajax have lost two of their most experienced players to Italian clubs.

Soon after midfield player Aron Winter signed for Lazio, outside-right John Van't Schip joined Genoa. Winter and Van't Schip were members of the Dutch squad at the European Championship and each has played three European finals with Ajax.

Their departure leaves the club with a very young team to defend the UEFA Cup they won this year.

The 25-year-old Winter has just completed the best season of his career. He plays at right-half, but his energy is such that he is to be found all over the field, and in the best Dutch tradition he blends strength, pace, skill and intelligence.

Moved

Van't Schip started his professional career with Ajax and at 28 was the longest-serving member of the current side. He belongs to the generation of Marco Van Basten, Gerald Vanenburg and Sonny Silooy.

Van't Schip was born in Canada and had never played football until his parents moved back to Holland, when he was ten. His appearance, long-legged elegance and ability to keep his eye on the whole field while on the ball remind many of Johan Cruyff. Unfortunately, he is prone to inconsistency and has been in and out of the Dutch team.

Van't Schip . . . moving to Genoa.

He went through spells of complete loss of form with Ajax, and last year provoked a row with manager Louis van Gaal when he said he was no longer willing to play outside-right, the spot he has occupied for most of the last decade.

Van Gaal responded by dropping him, but shortly afterwards brought him back and gave him a freer role on the right. Genoa were impressed by Van't Schip when he helped Ajax eliminate the Italians in the semi-final of the UEFA Cup.

"We can compensate for Winter's loss because we have Marciano Vink and Rob Alflen, but we'll need to buy to replace Van't Schip," says Van Gaal.

"It's beginning to turn into an exodus."

The events have made nonsense of Ajax chairman Michael van Praag's recent boast that "If we carry on playing like this we'll win the League for the next five years."

PSV, who look as though they will keep their side intact, will be delighted.

Worked

Feyenoord have a new manager — their former player, Willem van Hanegem, replacing Hans Dorjee.

With Geert Meijer, he will form a managerial duo under technical director Wim Jansen, who was Van Hanegem's midfield partner with Feyenoord and Holland in the 1960s and 1970s.

Van Hanegem, 48, retired as a player nine years ago and worked as Feyenoord's assistant manager until 1986. Then he worked as an assistant at various other clubs, but he always hoped he would return to Feyenoord, despite the numerous rows he had with the club's former directors.

Players respect Van Hanegem for his unparalleled knowledge, but many have found his harsh criticism hard to take.

Although he and Jansen get on well, Van Hanegem is far more attack-minded than his friend, so next season's tactical debates at Feyenoord could be tense.

After De Graafschap and VVV Venlo had been relegated. Den Haag followed when they lost the deciding play-off 4-0 on aggregate to Go Ahead Eagles. Go Ahead, Den Bosch and Cambuur Leeuwarden are the three clubs to go up. Sadly, they are expected to go straight down again.

The gap between the Premier Division and the First is vast, and in recent seasons promoted clubs have seldom survived at the top.

Winter . . . moving to Lazio.

TURKEY BY HASAN CEMALI

Defence is the key for Besiktas

THE title race in Turkey went to the strongest team, Besiktas, but many people feel sorry for Fenerbahce, who played a rather more attractive brand of soccer.

Besiktas, setting two records by winning the title for the third time in succession, and without losing a match, are managed by Gordon Milne, the former England and Liverpool midfielder.

He is well aware of the value of a strong defence, and his team conceded only 20 goals in their 30 League games.

Their record of five against in 15 away matches is truly remarkable.

They also revealed great staying power, and their five-point cushion at the finish was largely due to goals near the end of vital matches.

Five of their 23 victories were achieved by scoring near the end — 2-1 over Altay with the winner arriving in the 82nd minute, 2-1 against Ankaragucu (66th), 2-1 over Bolu (90th), 1-0 against Fenerbahce (89th) and 1-0 at Adana Demirspor (90th).

Besiktas drew a total of 285,430 fans to home games, and were "awarded" only 34 yellow cards, lowest in the League. The one disappointment was in attack, for a total of 58 goals is not really enough for a title-winning combination. Fortunately, they had that wonderful defence.

In contrast, Fenerbahce conceded 35 goals but scored 81, finishing a frustrating season by winning 8-4 against Gaziantep.

Aykut (25 goals) and Tanju (23) were the country's two top scorers, and their combined total was better than that of 12 clubs. Mehmet was top marksman for Besiktas, in joint eighth place with 12.

The 240 matches produced 677 goals — 2.82 per game — including 72 penalties from 93 attempts. Referees were kept busy, with 65 players sent off and 795 booked.

George Best and Roger Milla turned out in a match to help Turkish earthquake victims. The World Stars, also including Kroll, Tardelli, Neeskens, Caniggia and Rumennigge, beat the Turkish League 3-2.

Galatasaray are hoping to sign the Kaiserslautern coach, Kalli Feldkamp, to succeed Mustafa Denizli, who resigned soon after the end of the season.

Alan Ball, now on the England coaching staff, had travelled to Istanbul for talks with the club's president, Alp Yalman.

For the new season Besiktas have signed Serbian midfielder Mitar Mrkela from Dutch club FC Twente for an overall fee of $605,000 for two years. Half of it goes to him.

Mrkela, who is 28 years old, played for Red Star Belgrade for seven years before he joined the Dutch club.

Fenerbahce, under Jozef Venglos, signed Bulgarian midfielder Steilev from Levski Spartak for $6000,000 for two years. His club will get $450,000 from this deal.

They are also interested in Ghanaian Anthony Baffoe from Fortuna Dusseldorf for a libero position.

EUROSPORT WINNER

Congratulations to **ANDREW HIBBARD**, *of Boundary Road, Woking, Surrey.* He is the proud winner of the **EUROSPORT** competition that appeared in our June issue. Andrew wins a complete Satellite System. The answers were: 1. Naill Quinn and Lee Dixon, 2. The Nations' Cup; 3. Third place in 1968.

IRELAND BY SEAN CREEDON

Ireland score century

THE Republic of Ireland clocked up their 100th win in senior internationals when they opened their World Cup campaign with a 2-0 win over Albania at Lansdowne Road.

At one stage it looked as if the game might have to be cancelled. The Albanians arrived in Dublin two days before the game with only the clothes on their backs and hinting to journalists that they were expecting a £50,000 "gift" from the FAI.

Adidas, the FAI's sponsors, provided a kit for their senior and under-21 teams and Penneys, a local department store, ensured that the visotors went home well dressed.

The FAI did pay the Albanians' hotel and other bills, but didn't come up with the "gift" which Albania claim they had received when they played Spain in Seville a month earlier.

The Republic's participation in the US Cup '92 tournament was a disaster. For the first time in Jack Charlton's 60 games in charge, the tired Irish lost two games in a row, going down 3-1 to eventual winners US and 2-0 to Italy.

Packie Bonner's frustrating season was compounded when he was sent off for bringing down italian striker Signori.

Muted

The Irish avoided last place in the tournament with a 2-0 win over Portugal. But even then their celebrations were muted when it was discovered that money and jewellery were stolen from seven of the players' hotel rooms in Boston while the team were playing Portugal.

Charlton will now have to take stock before the World Cup campaign continues against Latvia in September. Ten of the regulars are on the wrong side of 30 and Charlton will need to bring in some fresh legs soon.

Celtic, Manchester City and a League of Ireland Selection XI will take part in a triangular tournament at Tolka Park on July 22. This year it carries the billing "Clash of the Champions." Shelbourne will also play St Johnstone and Millwall as part of their pre-season festival.

Ton up . . . 2-0 victory against Albania.

Meanwhile Shels have sold their centre-half Tony McCarthy to Millwall and bought midfielder Paul Doolin from Shamrock Rovers.

Michael O'Connor is the new manager of Athlone Town. He is the third member of the O'Connor family to manage the club. Older brothers Turlough and Padraig have previously occupied the hot seat at St Mel's Park.

Pat Devlin, who quit Athlone at the end of last season, has now taken over from Liam Brien as manager of Drogheda United.

Patsy McGowan has been appointed manager of First Division Finn Harps. McGowan, always a good man for the quote, was manager of the County Donegal club when they joined the League of Ireland in 1969 and led them to FAI Cup success in 1974.

But Derry City are now the big name in the North West and it will take all of Patsy's charm to bring the fans back.

Sam Allardyce, who took Limerick City back to the Premier Division of the League of Ireland last season, has returned to England where he has secured a full-time coaching job with Preston North End.

The Munster Football Association are upgrading Turner's Cross, once the home of Cork Celtic and more recently Cork City.

Now that City have decided to move to a new stadium at Bishopstown the Munster Asociation intend to develop "The Cross" as a junior football headquarters.

BELGIUM BY GILBERT ROUSSELLE

ANDERLECHT still spending

ANDERLECHT are still wondering how they came to let the Belgian title slipaway to Club Brugge, but they are acting to strengthen their squad for yet another challenge.

After the signing of Dutch international Peter Van Vossen from Beveren, reported last month, Anderlecht have recruited two men from Mechelen — Philippe Albert and Mark Emmers.

All three are fine players who should prove very useful to coach Aad de Mos.

His attack was too feeble for comfort in the recent season, despite 16 goals each by John Bosman and Luc Nilis and his defence was static.

Anderlecht, Standard Liege and Mechelen will play in the UEFA Cup next season, with Antwerp in the Cup-winners' Cup after their defeat of Mechelen in the Cup Final, by a remarkable 9-8 on penalties after a 2-2 draw.

Barrier

Club Brugge, coached by Hugo Broos, go into the Champions' Cup with hopes for a decent run, at least to the quarter-final groups.

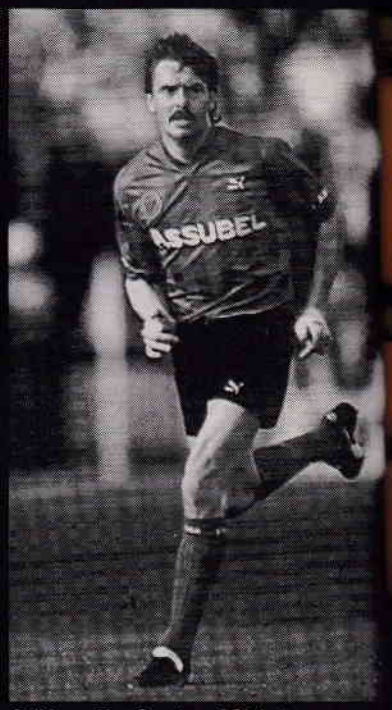
The seemingly eternal Frankie Van der Elst and Luc Beyens were inventive in midfield, and Alex Querter was a colossal defensive barrier.

The club even survived the retirement of veteran international striker Jan Cuelemans, with Nigerian Daniel Amokachi taking over his role.

Dutchman Foeke Booy and Poland's Tomasz Dziubinski were effective strikers, and a run of 20 matches without defeat did wonders for the general confidence.

Josip Weber of Cercle was the League's top scorer with 26, followed by Kjetil Rekdal of Lierse with 21.

Aalst and Kortrijk, the relegated clubs, were among those who had changed their manager earlier in the season.



Solid . . . Alex Querter of Club Brugge.

GREECE BY LOU ECONOMOPOULOS

A NASTY SMELL as Panionios fail

AEK Athens are champions, Olympiakos won the League Cup . . . but the relegation of Panionios, for the first time in their 102-year history, was one of Greek Soccer's biggest talking points.

Panionios lost their last match 4-0 at Larisa but would have been saved from the drop if Athinaikos, unbeaten at home, had defeated Xanthi, who had not won away.

Athinaikos led 1-0 in the second half, but conceded an equaliser, and then 17-year-old Christos Maladenis scored a shock winner for Xanthi.

Best

So they stay up, with a better scoring record, and Panionios join Panserraikos and Ethnikos in the Second Division next season.

"This smells," said one Panionios player. "If measures are not taken, we'll all be asking why grounds are empty."

The club asked for an investigation, with general manager Yiannis Ammanitis saying: "Everything was planned for Panionios to fall," and the president, Costas Tsolakakis, resigning in disgust. This contrasted with the view expressed by the Sports Under-Secretary, Vasilis Papageorgopoulos, he said: "This was the best season for years, and soccer has started to find its lost respect again."

AEK's seventh championship was well deserved. They set records for most victories (23) and most away victories (10) and scored 72 goals, with 28 of them coming from Vasilis Dimitriadis.

Veteran Dimitris Saravakos of Panathinaikos scored 24.

Olympiakos were second, three points behind, and beat PAOK 3-1 on aggregate to win the League Cup for the 19th time.

"That has capped a two-year effort," said coach Oleg Blokhin.

Discussions are taking place about a change for next season, with three points for a win instead of two, in the hope of increasing the number of goals.

This may not be much consolation to relegated Panionios . . . or to the players of Third Division club Kallithea. Their away game with Mesollongi was cancelled because Kallithea could not field a team. Several of their players had been beaten up by home fans before the scheduled start.

FINLAND BY PENTTI HIETANEN

Kuusysi go clear

DEFENDING champions Kuusysi Lahti are catching other Finnish clubs cold right from the start.

Seven wins from seven matches have given them a maximum of 21 points. They are now seven points ahead of promoted MyPa.

FC Jazz are benefitting from their bold move to sign three young Brazilians from Bragantino. Midfielders Piracaia and Marcus Tulio and forward Luiz Antonio have won over the Finnish audiences.

Luiz Antonio has scored five times, only one fewer than top marksman Ismo Lius (HJK).

The best-known import is, however, the former Soviet Union international midfielder Valery Broshin, who signed for Kuopio PS.

Broshin, formerly with CSKA Moscow, was capped six times and was in the Soviet World Cup squad at Italia '90.

Another former Soviet veteran, Mikhail Biryukov, has been giving classic performances in goal for MyPa.

Now 33, Biryukov played more than 250 League matches for Zenit Leningrad. In 1984, when Zenit won the Soviet championship, local journalists named Biryukov as the best goalkeeper in the series.

No mean feat during the golden era of superstar Rinat Dasayev.

Zenit later collapsed to the Third Division, but Biryukov remained loyal to them, although he would have been good enough to play for several top European clubs. It seems that he has lost none of his class.

NORWAY AND ICELAND BY PER OLVADDI

Cup-winners relegated

STROMSGODSET achieved an odd double by winning the Norwegian Cup and being relegated.

They finished last of the 12 clubs, with only 21 points from their 22 games — 20 fewer than champions Viking Stavanger — but in the knockout they beat Rosenborg 3-2 after going three up in 28 minutes.

So Rosenborg finished second in both competitions. They had ended five points behind Viking, although they had the season's top scorer, Karl-Petter Loken with 12 goals.

Oystein Neerland of Molde was second, with 11.

Fylingen go down with Stromsgodset, and Mjondalen and Hamarkameratene are promoted.

One goal decides

● ICELAND'S championship produced a hectic finale, with Vikingur winning by the closest margin possible.

They finished level on 37 points with Fram, but had a one-goal margin to spare — 36 for and 21 against, compared with Fram's 29-15.

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MALTA BY DOMENICO AQUILINA

Champions . . . the Valletta squad and officials before the last match of the season. President Joe Caruana Curran is in the centre of the back row.

Valletta equal a record

VALLETTA won the Maltese championship for the 14th time, equalling the record set by Floriana in 1976-77 by taking 33 points from 18 games.

They won 15 and drew three, conceding only seven goals.

Since the charismatic Joe Caruana Curran took over as president in 1967, Valletta have won six domestic trophies in various competitions.

A 1-0 away win over Sliema Wanderers in the last match gave Floriana second place and a spot in the UEFA Cup. Sliema were third, one point behind, and defending title-holders Hamrun Spartans were fourth. Hamrun, upset by internal troubles, had the consolation of finishing top scorers with 52. International Stefan Sultana's total of 22 was an individual record, beating the 20 achieved by Mario Azzopardi of Valletta in 1962-63.

Mqabba were last in the table with five points, but the other relegation place had to be settled by a play-off after Zurrieq and St. Andrew's had both ended on nine points. Zurrieq lost 2-0 and go down, with St. George's and Mellieha coming up.

The national team extended their unbeaten run to five games with a 1-0 win over Latvia. Valletta midfielder Nicky Saliba was the scorer.

CIS BY PENTTI HIETANEN

Koloskov v Bannikov ROUND ONE

THE CIS team ceased to exist after the European Championship finals, but at the moment it is still unknown who will inherit the Soviet Union's place in the 1994 World Cup qualifiers.

Vyacheslav Koloskov, former president of the Soviet Football Federation, was quick to claim the Soviet legacy for Russia. However, that did not cut ice with his Ukrainian counterpart Viktor Bannikov, a former Soviet international goalkeeper, who, ironically, played his career in Moscow.

"How in the world can he say that the place in the World Cup qualifiers belongs to Russia when the bulk of the Soviet internationals in recent years has come from Ukraine?" Psychological warfare is already on and several Russian fans have been upset by the total blackout on TV of the League matches of the other states.

Russian for the Russians is the order of the day, so no Kiev Dynamo, Chernomorets Odessa or Minsk Dynamo matches on TV in Moscow any more.

There is trouble of another kind looming. Since Kiev Dynamo had a head start on the others in selling players to the west, the Moscow clubs now claim that they are luring away their stars.

A local journalist claims that any player in the CIS area is a possible target for Kiev. The Moscovites can no longer compete with them. Clubs like Spartak will have to continue selling their stars in order to survive.

CYPRUS BY MICHAEL RAPHAEL

Apoel's 15th title success

APOEL won the championship of Cyprus for the 15th time, and go into the Champions' Cup next season.

Anorthosis finished runners-up for the second successive year, to take the UEFA Cup place, and Apollon go into the Cup-winners' Cup after their 1-0 defeat of Omonia in the Cup Final.

This means that Omonia miss European entry for the first time since 1975.

The semi-final between Anorthosis and Apollon, won 1-0 by the latter over two legs, had begun with a farcical cancellation.

The game was called off, with 15,000 in the ground, because the blue and white colours of both clubs clashed, and no alternative strips were available.

A Pole, Evgeny Ptak, scored the winner for Apollon in both semi-final and final . . . but the club have decided not to renew his contract.

The 2-0 victory over the Faroe Islands in the World Cup qualifying competition was the national team's first win in an official international since 1972.

SWEDEN BY PENTTI HIETANEN

Tom has the right look

LET us introduce to you the next Swede to follow in the footsteps of such great coaches as Nils Liedholm, Sven-Goran Eriksson and Gunder Bengtsson.

Tom Prahl is still only 33, but seems destined to become a name among the international coaching cream. At the moment, Prahl's club Trelleborg FF top the "Allsvenskan".

They take on opponents with real gusto and are already making a mockery of the predictions that they would not hold their own in the top division.

In the midst of all the merry-go-round, young Prahl displays a cool face and devotes his spare time to what Rousseau thought would be good for everyone — gardening.

But then, Prahl has always been somewhat different. Never a player of merit, he left Sweden at 18 to study at the DFB "Sportschule" of Cologne to obtain a German B coaching licence. Since returning to live and work in Trelleborg, he has consistently turned a deaf ear to the approaches from the bigger clubs.

Cool . . . Tom Prahl of Trelleborg.

Last autumn Prahl's name was already linked with the coaching vacancy of the Bundesliga club Borussia Monchengladbach. But he declined.

Hobby

Says Prahl: "I have no urge to move, because my roots are here. I regard football more as a hobby than a profession, although I am now coaching full-time.

"In my view coaching is as enjoyable in the Third Division as it is at the top of the First Division."

He seems certain to move, sooner or later. But even if Trelleborg go down the scale, they will have done enough to give Prahl the well-deserved reputation of a winner.

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Results

(Continued from last month)

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, 26 APRIL

ITALY Weekend

Bari 2 (Progna 87, Platt 90), **Ascoli 1** (Troglio 37). **Att:** 17,900.
Lazio 3 (Doll 9, Ruben Sosa pen 32, Riedle 49), **Cremonese 2** (Dezotti 34, Marcolin 64). **Att:** 20,000.
Verona 2 (Lunini 48, Fanna pen 82), **Fiorentina 3** (Branca 16, 55, 78). **Att:** 19,695.
Sampdoria 1 (Vialli 64), **Foggia 1** (Rambaudi 24). **Att:** 30,000.
Parma 2 (Minotti 63, Brolin 77), **Genoa 0. Att:** 21,000.
Internazionale 1 (Fontolan 61), **Juventus 3** (Baggio pen 30, 38, Schillaci 54). **Att:** 75,000.
Torino 2 (Casagrande 8, Baresi o.g. 62), **Milan 2** (Massaro 18, Fuser 71). **Att:** 35,000.
Cagliari 0, Napoli 0. Att: 30,000.
Atalanta 0, AS Roma 1 (Voller 73). **Att:** 25,000.

PORTUGAL Weekend

Farense 2, Estoril 0
Lison 4, Torriense 0
Vittoria Guimares 3, Maritimo 1
Gil Vicente 1, Pacos de Ferreira 2
Boavista 4, Chaves 4
Salguieros 0, FC Porto 1
Penafiel 1, Famalicao 1
Uniao Madeira 0, Braga 2
Beira-Mar 2, Benfca 1

SCOTLAND Midweek

Airdrie 1 (Smith 75), **St Mirren 1** (McDowell 58). **Att:** 1,500.

Weekend
Aberdeen 1 (Booth 58), **Falkirk 1** (McQueen 36). **Att:** 7,000.
Celtic 2 (McStay 8, Collins 47), **Dunfermline 0. Att:** 12,640.
Hearts 2 (Crabbe 8, McPherson 79), **Airdrie 2** (Conn 30, Coyle 64). **Att:** 5,310.
Motherwell 1 (Arnott 6), **Rangers 2** (Michailichenko 21, 49). **Att:** 12,515.
St Johnstone 1 (Wright pen 64), **Hibernian 1** (Donald 49). **Att:** 3,885.
St Mirren 0, Dundee Utd 1 (Ferguson 19). **Att:** 1,871.

SPAIN Weekend

Burgos 3 (Balint 33, 80 pen, Joseba Aguirre 44), **Albacete 1** (Menendez 45). **Att:** 10,000.
Mallorca 4 (Milojevic 60, 68, 90, Galvez 79), **La Coruna 2** (Jose Ramon 42, Kiriakov pen 72). **Att:** 7,000.
Espanol 3 (Korneyev 23, Escaich 68, 90), **Logrones 0. Att:** 25,000.
Real Sociedad 2 (Kodro 1, Carlos Xavier 73), **Real Madrid 2** (Butragueno 17, Hagi 20). **Att:** 15,000.
Zaragoza 3 (Poet 30, Moises 40, Franco 76), **Sporting Gijon 1** (Iordanov 11). **Att:** 20,000.
Oviedo 1 (Paco 79), **Sevilla 0. Att:** 17,428.
Atletico Madrid 3 (Juanito 44, Manolo 71, Futre 84), **Athletic Bilbao 1** (Garitano 42). **Att:** 45,000.
Osasuna 1 (Sola 49), **Valladolid 1** (Fonseca 75). **Att:** 12,000.
Valencia 4 (Fernando 46, Arroyo 53, Roberto 67, Leonardo 76), **Cadiz 0. Att:** 35,000.
Tenerife 2 (Pizzi 2, 39), **Barcelona 1** (Amor 6). **Att:** 17,000.

SWITZERLAND — PLAY OFFS

Midweek
Lausanne Sports 1 (Studer 65), **Young Boys 3** (Jakobsen 51, Bregy 79, Kunz 86). **Att:** 7,200.

Weekend
Neuchatel Xamax 3 (Bonvin pen 51, Ramzy 85, Chassot 90), **FC Zurich 1** (Skoro 44). **Att:** 11,600.
Servette 4 (Dobrovolski pen 38, Sinval 55, 83, Molnar 76), **St Gallen 0. Att:** 4,800.
Grasshoppers 0, Lausanne Sports 0. Att: 5,100.
Sion 0, Young Boys 0. Att: 12,600.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, 3 MAY

AUSTRIA — PLAY OFFS

Weekend
Vorwarts Steyr 3 (Waldhor 3, 33, Vucovic 87), **Austria Wien 1** (Fridikas 52). **Att:** 5,000.
FC Tirol 5 (Posch 2, Kirchler 54, Pacult 70, 80, 88). **Austria Salzburg 0. Att:** 11,000.
Admira Wacker 4 (Marschall 34, Kuhbauer 51, Ljung 80, E. Ogris 86), **St Polten 1** (Rotter 75). **Att:** 1,500.
Rapid Wien 4 (Herzog 12, Pfeiffenberger 16, Fjortoft 25, Werner II o.g. 52), **Stahl Linz 1** (Stumpf 89). **Att:** 5,000.

BELGIUM Weekend

Genk 0, Ekeren 4 (Herreman 56, Hofmans 83, 80, Tahamata 85). **Att:** 4,000.
Kortrijk 1 (Oeyekanni 87), **Standard 1** (Bettagno 15). **Att:** 8,000.
Liege 0, Waregem 0. Att: 3,500.
Lierse 3 (Boonen 75, De Smet 79, Rekdal 88), **Charleroi 0. Att:** 5,000.
Anderlecht 4 (Versavel 56, Degryse 65, 70, Oliveira 75), **Cercle Brugge 3** (Abdellah 10, Karacic 36, Debuyser 54). **Att:** 16,200.
Antwerp 3 (Lehnhoff 18, Kiekens 77, Jakovljevic 84), **Gent 1** (Smidts o.g. 26). **Att:** 6,500.
Lokeren 0, Beveren 1 (Bogaerts 36). **Att:** 3,000.
Club Brugge 3 (Amokachi 67, 79, Verspaille 74), **Molenbeek 1** (Lorincz 60). **Att:** 15,000.
Aalst 1 (Van Peteghem 85), **Mechelen 1** (Ingesson pen 2). **Att:** 2,600.

ENGLAND Weekend

Arsenal 5 (Campbell 66, Wright pen 70, 90, 90, Smith 85), **Southampton 1** (Cockerill 68). **Att:** 37,702.
Aston Villa 2 (Regis 1, Yorke 36), **Coventry City 0. Att:** 31,984.
Everton 2 (Beardsley pen 33, Beagrie 69), **Chelsea 1** (Newton 72). **Att:** 20,163.
Leeds Utd 1 (Wallace 25), **Norwich City 0. Att:** 32,673.
Manchester Utd 3 (McClair 38, Hughes 56, 60), **Tottenham 1** (Lineker 86). **Att:** 44,595.
Notts Co. 2 (Matthews 34, 70), **Luton Town 1** (James 17). **Att:** 11,380.
Oldham Athletic 2 (Henry 11, Moulden 87), **Manchester City 5** (Mike 16, White 31, 62, 68, Sheron 67). **Att:** 18,588.
QPR 1 (Humphrey o.g. 14), **Crystal Palace 0. Att:** 14,903.
Sheffield Weds. 0, Liverpool 0. Att: 34,861.
West Ham Utd 3 (McAvennie 60, 81, 85), **Nottingham Forest 0. Att:** 20,629.
Wimbledon 3 (Fashanu 18, Earle 21, 36), **Sheffield Utd 0. Att:** 8,768.

FRANCE Midweek

Cup — semi-final
Cannes 0, Monaco 0
Monaco win on pens

Weekend
Monaco 1 (Robert 56), **Montpellier 1** (Guerin 33). **Att:** 4,000.
Nimes 2 (Meilhar 8, Cucciuffo 40), **Sochaux 2** (Prat 4, Thomas pen 38). **Att:** 8,231.
Caen 1 (Cauet 64), **Toulouse 0. Att:** 10,653.
Toulon 1 (Pinedo 13), **St Etienne 2** (Mendy 65, 68). **Att:** 5,000.
Metz 3 (Chanlot 10, Calderaro 16, pen 73), **Lens 2** (Bocande 18, Lama pen 86). **Att:** 9,213.
Rennes 1 (Huard 90), **Auxerre 1** (Martins 85). **Att:** 20,000.
Paris SG 1 (Bravo 31), **Nantes 1** (Burruchaga 61). **Att:** 30,000.
Lille 0, Marseille 1 (Pele 78). **Att:** 17,237.
Lyon 0, Le Havre 2 (Garande 46, Uvenard 90). **Att:** 16,818.
Cannes 1 (Omam-Biyik 83), **Nancy 1** (Vairelles 26). **Att:** 7,000.

GERMANY Weekend

Kaiserslautern 2 (Funkel 38, Scherr 81), **Werder Bremen 2** (Wolter 44, K Allofs 72). **Att:** 30,000.
Nurnberg 1 (Wagner 57), **Bayer Leverkusen 0. Att:** 48,500.
VfL Bochum 3 (U. Wegmann 37, Heinemann pen 51, Turr 81), **Fortuna D. 0. Att:** 12,000.
Bayern Munich 5 (Wohlfarth 8, Effenberg 29, 49, Labbadia 36, 52), **Wattenscheid 2** (Fink 17, Bach 90). **Att:** 27,000.
Eintracht Frankfurt 3 (Sippel 84, 87, Yeboah 88), **MSV Duisburg 0. Att:** 32,000.
Borussia Dortmund 2 (Zorc 74, 90), **Borussia Mg. 2** (Pfipsen 10, Schneider 47). **Att:** 52,616.
Dynamo Dresden 2 (Zander 39, Kmetsch 84), **Schalke 1** (Guttler 74). **Att:** 17,000.
Koln 3 (Sturm 40, H. Fuchs 46, Janssen 60), **Hansa Rostock 1** (Persigehl 12). **Att:** 12,000.
Hamburg SV 0, Karlsruher SC 1 (Fritz 11). **Att:** 15,000.
Stuttg. Kickers 1 (Moutas 49), **VfB Stuttgart 3** (F. Walter 77, 89, Frontzeck 82). **Att:** 55,000.

Midweek
Werder Bremen 1 (Kohn 21), **Hamburg SV 1** (Eck 58). **Att:** 20,000.

GREECE Weekend

Korinthos 2, Apollon 0
Larissa 3, Pierikos 1
PAOK 3, Serres 0
Heraklis 1, Athinaikos 0
Olympiakos 2, Xanthi 0
Panachaiki 1, Ethnikos 0
Panathinaikos 2, Doxa Drama 1
OFI Crete 4, Aris Salonika 0
AEK Athens 6, Panionios 0

HOLLAND Weekend

Feyenoord 3 (Damaschin 9, Blinker 37, Taument 56), **Fortuna Sittard 0. Att:** 10,410.
Roda JC 0, Willem II 0. Att: 3,000.
PSV 5 (Vanenburg 11, 51, Garets pen 13, Kieft 67, Ellerman 88), **De Graafschap 0. Att:** 24,600.
MVV 3 (Hofman 61, Meijer 78, Bucan 90), **Utrecht 1** (Liesdek 83). **Att:** 4,500.
VVV 2 (Babangida 20, Vanderbroeck 38), **Den Haag 1** (Pattinama 49).
SVV/Dordrecht 0, Ajax 5 (Alflen 18, Van Loen 26, 47, Hiele o.g. 69, Pettersson 90). **Att:** 7,000.
RKC 0, Groningen 0. Att: 2,000.
Vitesse 1 (Van Arum 74), **Sparta 1** (Gerard de Nooijer 90). **Att:** 13,102.
Volendam 0, Twente 0. Att: 2,000.

Midweek
Feyenoord 3 (Fraser 53, Damaschin 58, Taument 90), **Willem II 1** (Van Geel 22). **Att:** 7,654.

ITALY Midweek

Cup — semi-final, 2nd leg
Sampdora 2, Parma 2
Parma win 3-2 on agg

Weekend
Atalanta 2 (Perrone 53, Caniggia 72), **Bari 1** (Platt 46). **Att:** 20,000.
Cremonese 0, Cagliari 1 (Fonseca 82). **Att:** 7,000.
Genoa 1 (Caricola 62), **Internazionale 2** (Pizzi pen 66, Klinsmann 67). **Att:** 27,000.
Milan 2 (Massaro 25, Fuser 84), **Lazio 0. Att:** 75,000.
Foggia 1 (Padelina 62), **Napoli 0. Att:** 25,000.
AS Roma 1 (Rizzitelli 76), **Parma 0. Att:** 54,318.
Juventus 0, Sampdoria 0. Att: 40,000.
Fiorentina 0, Torino 0. Att: 28,690.
Ascoli 1 (Maniero 58), **Verona 1** (Stojkovic 52). **Att:** 4,000.

PORTUGAL Midweek

Chaves 1, Benfica 0
Maritimo 4, Gil Vicente 0

Weekend
Torriense 8, Estoril 1
Maritimo 1, Sporting 0
Pacos de Ferreira 1, Vittoria Guimaraes 1
Chaves 1, Gil Vicente 1
FC Porto 2, Boavista 0
Famalicao 2, Salgueiros 1
Braga 1, Penafiel 2
Benfica 6, Uniao Madeira 0
Beira-Mar 1, Farense 0

SCOTLAND Midweek

Rangers 1 (McCoist 56), **Hearts 1** (Robertson pen 85). **Att:** 36,129.

Weekend
Aberdeen 0, Rangers 2 (McCoist 37, 56). **Att:** 17,000.
Celtic 1 (Fulton 90), **Hibernian 2** (Whyte o.g. 10, McGinlay 64). **Att:** 25,527.
Hearts 2 (Bannon 35, Ferguson 53), **Falkirk 0. Att:** 7,348.
Motherwell 1 (Angus 54), **Dundee Utd 2** (Johnson 32, Ferguson 84). **Att:** 3,159.
St Johnstone 1 (Wright 66), **Airdrie 1** (Smith 86). **Att:** 3,699.
St Mirren 3 (Laverty 22, 34, Stickroth 90), **Dunfermline 1** (Moyes 56). **Att:** 1,542.

SPAIN Weekend

Barcelona 1 (Amor 52), **Burgos 1** (Alejandro 34). **Att:** 25,000.
Albacete 1 (Zalazar 9), **Mallorca 0. Att:** 14,000.
La Coruna 2 (Uralde 21, Claudio 63), **Espanol 2** (Cuxart 81, Pizo Gomez 84). **Att:** 22,000.
Logrones 1 (Poyato 40), **Real Sociedad 1** (Kodro 69). **Att:** 10,500.
Real Madrid 2 (Michel pen 5, 40), **Zaragoza 0. Att:** 60,000.
Sporting Gijon 1 (Monchu 3), **Oviedo 0. Att:** 25,000.
Sevilla 0, Atletico Madrid 1 (Futre 18). **Att:** 40,000.
Athletic Bilbao 2 (Andrinua 61, Luque 78), **Osasuna 1** (Alcorta o.g. 69). **Att:** 35,000.
Valladolid 1 (Fonseca 76), **Valencia 4** (Arroyo 2, 83, Fernando 16, Roberto pen 61). **Att:** 15,000.
Cadiz 0, Tenerife 0. Att: 10,000.

SWITZERLAND — PLAY OFFS

Weekend
FC Zurich 2 (Skoro pen 62, Sotomayor 67), **Servette 2** (Dobrovolski pen 22, 85). **Att:** 4,000.
St Gallen 2 (Gambino 23, Estay 45), **Neuchatel Xamax 2** (B. Sutter 28, Chassot 34). **Att:** 4,800.
Young Boys 2 (Pagano 42, Bregy 66), **Grasshoppers 1** (Elber 55). **Att:** 8,100.
Lausanne Sports 0, Sion 3 (Brigger 28, Calderon 70, Baljic 90). **Att:** 7,200.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, 10 MAY

AUSTRIA Midweek

Cup — semi-finals
FAVC 1, Admira Wacker 2
Austria Wien 5, Grazer AK 1

Weekend
Stahl Linz 1 (Stumpf 28), **Vorwarts Steyr 0. Att:** 6,000.
Austria Salzburg 2 (Sabitzer 25, Hristic 90), **Admira Wacker 0. Att:** 8,000.
Austria Wien 3 (Streiter o.g. 3, Fridrikas 16, Hasenhuttl 58), **FC Tirol 0. Att:** 8,000.
St Polten 3 (Rotter 40, Rosenecker 55, Schinkels 59), **Rapid Wien 2** (Rodax 8, Fjortoft 90). **Att:** 4,000.

BELGIUM Weekend

Standard 1 (Demol 65), **Anderlecht 2** (Oliveira 11, 49 pen). **Att:** 25,000.
Gent 2 (Vandenbergh, 65 Viscaal pen 66), **Kortrijk 2** (Vidmar pen 23, Lemoine 52). **Att:** 5,000.
Mechelen 0, Lierse 0. Att: 6,000.
Charleroi 1 (Janevski 61), **Club Brugge 2** (Cossey 64, Amokachi 76). **Att:** 10,000.
Beveren 4 (Van Vossen pen 17, 55, 80, Van Ham 35), **Ekeren 1** (Vandersmissen 60). **Att:** 3,000.
Antwerp 0, Genk 0. Att: 4,000.
Cercle Brugge 1 (Weber 49), **Aalst 3** (Krohm 31, 82, Zakkas 55). **Att:** 3,000.
Molenbeek 0, FC Liege 1 (Varga 81). **Att:** 4,500.
Waregem 1 (Niederbacher 85), **Lokeren 0. Att:** 2,500.

ENGLAND Weekend

FA Cup — Final
Liverpool 2 (Thomas 47, Rush 68), **Sunderland 0. Att:** 79,544.

GERMANY Midweek

Wattenscheid 0, Borussia Dortmund 1 (Chapuisat 65). **Att:** 35,000.
Bayer Leverkusen 2 (Von Ahlen 7, Feinbier 59), **Bayern Munich 0. Att:** 19,000.
MSV Duisburg 3 (Ljuty 9, 86, Hopp 80), **Nurnberg 0. Att:** 14,500.
Borussia Mg 0, VfB Stuttgart 1 (Walter 10). **Att:** 22,000.
Hansa Rostock 0, Kaiserslautern 1 (Kuntz 90). **Att:** 10,000.
Schalke 2 (Anderbrugge pen 12, Christensen 19), **VfL Bochum 1** (U. Wegmann 83). **Att:** 51,200.
Stuttg. Kickers 0, Dynamo Dresden 0. Att: 10,000.
Karlsruher SC 0, Eintracht Frankfurt 2 (Yeboah 17, Grundel 65). **Att:** 28,000.
Fortuna Dusseldorf 1 (Rahn 33), **Koln 3** (Sturm 10, H. Fuchs 69, Ordenewitz 86). **Att:** 7,000.

Weekend
VfB Stuttgart 1 (Sammer 36), **Wattenscheid 1** (Bach 39). **Att:** 33,500.
Eintract Frankfurt 2 (Moller 21, Yeboah 81), **Werder Bremen 2** (Rufer 77, K. Allofs 79). **Att:** 46,000.
Bayern Munich 4 (Kreuzer 19, Wohlfarth 50, 75, Effenberg 65), **MSV Duisburg 2** (Struckmann 16, 29). **Att:** 23,000.
VfL Bochum 1 (U. Wegmann 82), **Dynamo Dresden 0. Att:** 17,000.
Koln 3 (Flick 45, H. Anderson 69, H. Fuchs 90), **Schalke 0. Att:** 47,000.
Kaiserslautern 2 (Vogel 17, Kuntz pen 43), **Fortuna Dusseldorf 0. Att:** 29,000.
Hamburg SV 1 (Emerson 66), **Hansa Rostock 0. Att:** 25,100.
Nurnberg 1 (Wuck 60), **Karlsruher SC 2** (Scholl 76, Krieg 86). **Att:** 36,000.
Borussia Dortmund 3 (Chapuisat 38, K. Reinhardt 63, Povlsen 85), **Bayer Leverkusen 1** (Jorginho 88). **Att:** 50,120.
Borussia Mg 2 (Criens 46, Kastenmaler 86), **Stuttg. Kickers 1** (Schwartz 35). **Att:** 17,000.

GREECE Weekend

Larissa 2, Korinthos 0
Apollon 2, PAOK 0
Pierikos 2, Heraklis 2
Serres 0, Olympiakos 2
Athinaikos 1, Panachaiki 0
Xanthi 1, Panathinaikos 0
Doxa Dramas 1, AEK Athens 5
Aris Salonika 0, Panionios 0

ITALY Midweek

Cup — final, 1st Leg
Juventus 1, (Baggio pen 22), **Parma 0.**

Weekend
AS Roma 1 (Carnevale 88), **Ascoli 0. Att:** 54,318.
Verona 1 (Stromberg o.g. 85), **Atalanta 3** (Caniggia 10, Bianchezi pen 12, Pasciullo 67). **Att:** 18,000.
Cagliari 0, Bari 0. Att: 25,000.
Internazionale 0, Cremonese 2 (Dezotti 63, pen 90). **Att:** 25,000.
Sampdoria 2 (Buso 41, Pari 58), **Fiorentina 0. Att:** 25,000.
Torino 4 (Bresciani 17, Scifo 62, Beer [illegible], Policano 79), **Genoa 0. Att:** 25,000.
Parma 0, Juventus 0. Att: 24,900.
Foggia 2 (Rambaudi 49, Baiano 53), **Lazio 1** (Sosa 90). **Att:** 20,000.
Napoli 1 (Blanc 61), **Milan 1** (Rijkaard 38). **Att:** 72,646.

PORTUGAL Weekend

Torriense 1, Farense 1
Estoril 1, Manitimo 1
Lisbon 2, Pacos Feirreira 1
Vit. Guimaraes 4, Chaves 0
Gil Vicente 1, FC Porto 0
Boavista 1, Famalicao 0
Salqueiros 3, Sp. Braga 0
Penafiel 2, Benfica 2
Uniao Madeira 2, Beira-Mar 1

SCOTLAND Weekend

Cup — Final
Rangers 2 (Hateley 30, McCoist 45), **Airdrie 1** (Smith 80). **Att:** 44,045.

SPAIN Weekend

Mallorca 2 (Alvaro 22, Fradera 90), **Burgos 2** (Loren 55, Balint pen 89). **Att:** 10,000.
Espanol 2 (Escaich 47, Francisco 76), **Albacete 0. Att:** 25,000.
Real Sociedad 1 (Oceano 4), **La Coruna 1** (Djuric 52). **Att:** 13,797.
Zaragoza 3 (Pena 60, Molses 65, Herraro o.g. 70), **Logrones 2** (Da Silva 15, Polster 80). **Att:** 20,000.
Oviedo 1 (Lacatus 90), **Real Madrid 0. Att:** 12,500.
Atletico Madrid 2 (Sabas 59, Manolo pen 67), **Sporting Gijon 1** (Joaquin pen 20). **Att:** 50,000.
Osasuna 1 (Larrainzar II 61), **Sevilla 0. Att:** 12,000.
Valencia 3 (Escurza 35, Fernando 64, Penev pen 79), **Athletic Bilbao 1** (Penev o.g. 45). **Att:** 40,000.
Tenerife 0, Valladolid 0. Att: 22,000.
Cadiz 0, Barcelona 2 (Stoichkov 24, Laudrup 37). **Att:** 18,000.

SWITZERLAND Midweek

Cup — quarter-finals
FC Luzern 1, Sion 1
Luzern win on pens
Servette 3, Lausanne Sports 0
Wettingen 1, Grasshoppers 1
Wettingen win on pens
Basel 2, Lugano 3

Weekend
Servette 3 (Dobrovolski pen 54, 79, Molnar 69), **Young Boys 0. Att:** 6,500.
St Gallen 1 (Djair 87), **Lausanne Sports 0. Att:** 3,200.
FC Zurich 0, Sion 0. Att: 4,600.
Neuchatel 1 (B. Sutter 58), **Grasshoppers 0. Att:** 13,200.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, 17 MAY

AUSTRIA Weekend

Admira Wacker 1 (Abfalterer 72), **Austria Wien 0. Att:** 9,000.
Rapid Wien 1 (Metzlisky 11), **Austria Salzburg 1** (Ergowic 10). **Att:** 11,000.
FC Tirol 2 (Posch 17, Wasinger 31), **Vorwarts Steyr 1** (Waldhor 35). **Att:** 6,000.
St Polten 1 (Milewski 64), **Stahl Linz 1** (Stumpf 86). **Att:** 3,000.

BELGIUM Weekend

Ekeren 1 (Tahamata 3), **Waregem 1** (Teppers 2). **Att:** 1,500.
Lokeren 1 (Samson 38), **Molenbeek 2** (Thairet 50, Van Veldhoven 70). **Att:** 2,000.
FC Liege 0, Charleroi 1 (Zetterberg 85). **Att:** 4,000.
Club Brugge 3 (Amokachi 2, Verspaille 32, Van der Heyden 57), **Mechelen 2** (Emmers 62, Albert 64). **Att:** 22,000.
Lierse 2 (Rekdal pen 1, 61 pen), **Cercle Brugge 0. Att:** 5,000.
Aalst 1 (Vos 41), **Standard 1** (Krohm 58). **Att:** 3,500.
Anderlecht 1 (Degryse 80), **Gent 3** (Viscaal 17, Vangronsveld 46, Dauwen 80). **Att:** 18,000.
Kortrijk 0, Antwerp 3 (Lehnhoff 10, Czerniatynski 18, Claesen pen 30). **Att:** 4,000.
Beveren 0, Genk 3 (Busuttil 6, 61, Goots 88). **Att:** 3,000.

GERMANY Weekend

Stuttg. Kickers 2 (Cayasso 65, Marin pen 68), **VfL Bochum 0. Att:** 11,000.
Wattenscheid 3 (Emmerling 27, Moser 53, Tschiskale 58), **Borussia Mg 2** (Dahlin 5, Kastenmaier 17). **Att:** 15,000.
MSV Duisburg 0, Borussia Dortmund 1 (Chapuisat 10). **Att:** 33,000.
Karlsruher SC 3 (Schmarov 57, Reich 70, Krieg 74), **Bayern Munich 0. Att:** 24,000.
Werder Bremen 1 (Kohn 38), **Nurnberg 3** (Golke 59, 70, 75). **Att:** 21,000.
Hansa Rostock 2 (Dowie 63, Boger 90), **Eintracht Frankfurt 1** (Kruse 66). **Att:** 25,000.
F. Dusseldorf 1 (Hey 52), **Hamburg SV 0.**

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Att: 6,500.
Schalke 2 (Fiad 22, Mihajiovic 74),
Kaiserslautern 0. Att: 61,200.
Dynamo Dresden 0, Koln 0. Att: 26,000.
Bayer Leverkusen 1 (Kree pen 20), **VfB Stuttgart 2** (F. Walter pen 43, Buchwald 86). **Att:** 26,000.

GREECE Midweek

Ethnikos 1, OFI Crete 0

Weekend
Korinthos 1, PAOK 1
Heraklis 0, Larissa 0
Olympiakos 3, Apollon 0
Panachaiki 2, Pierikos 0
Panathinaikos 0, Serres 1
OFI Crete 1, Athinaikos 0
AEK Athens 4, Xanthi 1
Panionios 0, Ethnikos 0
Aris Salonika 0, Doxa Dramas 3

ITALY Midweek

Cup — Final, 2nd Leg
Parma 2, Juventus 0
Parma win 2-1 on agg

Weekend
Juventus 0, Cagliari 0. Att: 30,000.
Genoa 0, Foggia 2 (Rambaudi 39, Signori 46). **Att:** 20,000.
Bari 0, Internazionale 2 (Bianchi 47, Pizzi 90). **Att:** 20,000.
Fiorentina 4 (Borgonovo 28, 39, 77, Dunga 58), **Napoli 2** (Blanc 36, De Napoli 50). **Att:** 24,583.
Ascoli 2 (Troglio 4, Maniero 43), **Parma 3** (Catanese 17, pen 90, Grun 51). **Att:** 4,000.
Cremonese 1 (Masperi 26), **AS Roma 2** (Voller pen 23, Carnevale 31). **Att:** 6,000.
Lazio 1 (Doll 13), **Sampdoria 2** (Buso 33, 76). **Att:** 37,000.
Atalanta 1 (Caniggia 60), **Torino 3** (Bresciani 30, Scifo 37, Bruno 72). **Att:** 24,600.
Milan 4 (Van Basten pen 18, Gullit 46, Ancelotti 76, 78), **Verona 0. Att:** 84,000.

PORTUGAL Weekend

Maritimo 1, Torriense 0
Pacos Feirreira 1, Estoril 2
Chaves 1, Sp. Lisbon 1
FC Porto 1, Vit. Guimares 0
Famalicao 2, Gil Vicente 0
Sp. Braga 1, Boavista 2
Benfica 1, Salgueiros 1
Beira-Mar 2, Penafiel 1
Farense 1, Uniao Madeira 0

SPAIN Weekend

Barcelona 3 (Koeman pen 34, Bequiristain 63, Eusebio 70), **Mallorca 0. Att:** 30,000.
Burgos 2 (Joseba Aquirre 62, Narciso 68), **Espanol 1** (Luis 72). **Att:** 9,500.
Albacete 0, Real Sociedad 1 (Kodro 84). **Att:** 14,000.
La Coruna 3 (Dinho 22, Claudio 78, Kyriakov 82), **Zaragoza 0. Att:** 19,000.
Logrones 2 (Setien 58, Polster pen 90), Oviedo **0. Att:** 8,500.
Real Madrid 3 (Luis Enrique 20, Butragueno 69, Maqueda 76), **Atletico Madrid 2** (Manolo 6, Aguilera 55). **Att:** 90,000.
Sporting Gijon 1 (Joaquin pen 35), **Osasuna 0. Att:** 17,900.
Sevilla 2 (Ramon 25, Salguero pen 82), **Valencia 3** (Camarasa 11, Fernando 36, Arroyo 45). **Att:** 17,000.
Athletic Bilbao 3 (Luke 46, 48, Garitano pen 70), **Tenerife 1** (Dertycia 38). **Att:** 25,000.
Valladolid 2 (Caminero 21, Aragon 63), **Cadiz 2** (Tilico 7, 90). **Att:** 15,000.

SWITZERLAND Midweek

Cup — semi-final
FC Lucerne 4, Wettingen 1

Weekend
Lausanne Sports 3 (Gigon 55, La Placa 59, Comisetti 64), **Servette 2** (Molnar 12, 26). **Att:** 7,200.
Sion 3 (Manfeda 34, 40, Rey 83), **Neuchatel Xamax 1** (Chassot 53). **Att:** 17,950.
Grasshoppers 3 (Elber 8, 65, Bickel 24), **FC Zurich 0. Att:** 7,100.
Young Boys 1 (Jakobsen 86), **St Gallen 1** (Weber o.g. 25). **Att:** 5,200.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, 24 MAY

AUSTRIA Weekend

Stahl Linz 1 (Dimitriev 47), **FC Tirol 0. Att:** 5,000.
Austria Wien 2 (Stoger 37, Fridrikas 76), **Rapid Wien 1** (Pfeiffenberger 7). **Att:** 19,000.
Vorwarts Steyr 1 (Krinner 62), **Admira Wacker 2** (Gruber 2, Marschall 70). **Att:** 3,500.
Austria Saltzburg 1 (Ergovic 85), **St Polten 0. Att:** 12,000.

BELGIUM Weekend

Genk 3 (Arisvaldo 34, Busuttil 83, Goots 86), **Kortrijk 0. Att:** 3,000.
Antwerp 1 (Moukrim 70), **Anderlecht 0. Att:** 8,500.
Gent 1 (Verkuyl 27), **Aalst 0. Att:** 5,000.
Standard 8 (Cruz 5, Wilmots 8, Bettagno 36, 85, Asselman 41, Demol 50, Goosens 56, Genaux 64), **Lierse 2** (Rekdal 28, Boonen 75). **Att:** 8,000.
Cercle Brugge 5 (Weber 4, Soenens 38, Karacic 40, De Buyser 46, De Nil 59), **Club Brugge 5** (Booy 9, 80, Beyens 11, 82, Schaesens72). **Att:** 22,000.
Mechelen 5 (Ingesson 10, 20, Andersson 31, Giusto o.g. 33, Eijkelkamp 60), **FC Liege 1** (Sunday 55). **Att:** 6,500.
Charleroi **1** (Rasquin pen 62), **Lokeren 1** (Myyry 57). **Att:** 4,000.
Molenbeek 0, Ekeren 3 (Sabbadini 37, Kepa o.g. 54, N'Sumbu 87). **Att:** 3,000.
Waregem 1 (Teppers 34), **Beveren 2** (Collings 23, Van Overtveldt 74). **Att:** 2,000.

GERMANY Midweek

Cup — Final
Borussia Mg 0, Hannover 0
Hannover win on pens

GREECE Weekend

Heraklis 5, Korinthos 1
PAOK 1, Olympiakos 2
Larissa 3, Panachaiki 0
Apollon 0, Panathinaikos 3
Pierikos 2, OFI Crete 1
Serres 0, AEK Athense 2
Athinaikos 4, Panionios 1
Xanthi 2, Aris Salonika 1
Ethnikos 1, Doxa Dramas 2

ITALY Weekend

Torino 5 (Sordo 6, Benedetti 11, Vasquez 40, Di Rocco o.g. 59, Lentini 73), **Ascoli 2** (Maniero 34, Zaini 82). **Att:** 25,000.
Internazionale 0, Atalanta 0. Att: 35,000.
AS Roma 2 (Voller 19, Di Mauro 59), **Bari 0. Att:** 57,056.
Sampdoria 2 (Vialli 51, Pari pen 72), **Cremonese 2** (Gualco 24, Marcolin pen 74). **Att:** 27,000.
Parma 1 (Brolin pen 90), **Fiorentina 1** (Maiello 43). **Att:** 22,000.
Napoli 1 (Mauro 73), **Genoa 0. Att:** 35,000.
Verona 3 (Davide Pellegrini 4, 6, Fannsa 49), **Juventus 3** (Alessio 10, Baggio 55, Kohler 90). **Att:** 23,334.
Cagliari 0, Lazio 1 (Doll 71). **Att:** 20,000.
Foggia 2 (Signori 40, Balano 42),
Milan 8 (Maldini 23, Gullit 47, Van Basten 53, 83, Matrecano o.g. 60, Simone 73, 75, Fuser 87). **Att:** 25,000.

SPAIN Weekend

Espanol 3 (Korneyev 42, 68, Kuznetsov 60), **Mallorca 2** (Pinilla 38, Stosic 45). **Att:** 24,000.
Real Sociedad 4 (Lolnaz 5, Guruceta 54, Carlos Xavier 87, Larranga 90), **Burgos 0. Att:** 14,000.
Zaragoza 1 (Higuera 6), **Albacete 0. Att:** 22,000.
Oviedo 2 (Lacatus 17, Bango 60), **La Coruna 1** (Lopez Rekarte 13). **Att:** 17,908.
Atletico Madrid 2 (Aguilera 32, Moya 83), **Logrones 1** (Garcia Pitarch 34). **Att:** 25,000.
Osasuna 1 (Larrainzar II 58), **Real Madrid 1** (Butragueno 86). **Att:** 17,700.
Valencia 3 (Fernando 23, Eloy 42, 86), **Sporting Gijon 1** (Joaquin pen 5). **Att:** 40,000.
Tenerife 4 (Pizzi 7, 35, Dertycia 51, Toni 69), **Sevilla 1** (Marcos 82). **Att:** 22,000.
Cadiz 1 (Tilico 47), **Athletic Bilbao 0. Att:** 14,000.
Valladolid 0, Barcelona 6 (Stoichkov 16, 28, Nadal 56, 75, Koeman pen 57, pen 86). **Att:** 22,000.

SWITZERLAND Midweek

Cup — semi-final
Servette 2, Lugano 4

Weekend
Neuchatel Xamax 3 (Smajic 40, 75, Bovin pen 89), **Lausanne 1** (Studer 13). **Att:** 11,800.
FC Zurich 1 (Makalalane 72), **Young Boys 5** (Baumann 12, 28, Bohinen 37, Streun 62, Kunz 86). **Att:** 2,700.
St Gallen 1 (Djair 80), **Grasshoppers 2** (Gamperle 7, Elber 27). **Att:** 5,000.
Servette 0, Sion 0. Att: 12,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, 31 MAY

AUSTRIA Weekend

St Polten 1 (Rosenegger 58), **Austria Wien 0. Att:** 4,000.
Admira Wacker 1 (Messlender 5), **FC Tirol 2** (Hortnagel 29, Pacult 84). **Att:** 3,000.
Rapid Wien 4 (Pfeiffenberger 7, Rodax 15, 85, Herzog 22), **Vorwarts Steyr 3** (Pfister 30, Vukovic 48, Kogler 72). **Att:** 3,000.
Austria Salzburg 3 (Stadler 21, Keglevits 61, 67), **Stahl Linz 1** (Stumpf 71). **Att:** 13,000.

BELGIUM Midweek

Cup — semi-final, 1st leg
Gent 1, Antwerp 1
Mechelen 1, Standard 1
Cup — semi-final, 2nd Leg
Antwerp 1, Gent 0
Antwerp win 2-1 on agg
Standard 0, Mechelen 2
Mechelen win 3-1 on agg

GREECE Midweek

Cup — Final
Olympiakos 2, PAOK 0

Weekend
Korinthos 1, Olympiakos 1
Panachaiki 4, Heraklis 2
Panathinaikos 5, PAOK 1
OFI Crete 5, Larissa 1
AEK Athens 2, Apollon 0
Panionios 4, Pierikos 2
Aris Salonika 0, Serres 2
Doxa Dramas 0, Athinaikos 0
Ethnikos 3, Xanthi 2

SPAIN Weekend

Espanol 0, Barcelona 4 (Koeman pen 31, Beguiristain 53, Eusebio 61, Ferrer 90). **Att:** 35,000.
Mallorca 2 (Milojevic 28, Pinilla 65), **Real Sociedad 1** (Oceano 77). **Att:** 10,000.
Burgos 0, Zaragoza 1 (Gay 51). **Att:** 10,000.
Albacete 2 (Antonio 30, Zalazar pen 45), **Oviedo 0. Att:** 14,000.
La Coruna 1 (Djukic pen 19), **Atletico Madrid 1** (Futre 55). **Att:** 21,000.
Logrones 0, Osasuna 0. Att: 8,000.
Real Madrid 2 (Michel 42, Hierro 50), **Valencia 1** (Roberto pen 67). **Att:** 90,000.
Sporting Gijon 1 (Emilio 15), **Tenerife 1** (Quique Estebaranz 1). **Att:** 14,500.
Sevilla 0, Cadiz 0. Att: 25,000.
Athletic Bilbao 2 (Luke 63, Ciganda 76), **Valladolid 0. Att:** 31,000.

SWITZERLAND Weekend

Grasshoppers 2 (Sforza 55, Nemtsoudis 88), **Servette 0. Att:** 5,600.
Young Boys 1 (Bregy 25), **Neuchatel Xamax 2** (Bonvin 31, 90). **Att:** 12,700.
Lausanne Sports 0, FC Zurich 1 (Barlocher 76). **Att:** 2,500.
Sion 2 (Gertschen 14, Manfreda 19), **St Gallen 1** (Basio 17). **Att:** 19,200.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, 7 JUNE

AUSTRIA Midweek

Cup — Final
FK Austria 1, Admira Wacker 0

Weekend
Austria Wien 2, Austria Salzburg 1
Vorwarts Steyr 1, St Polten 1
FC Tirol 1, Rapid Wien 0
Stahl Linz 2, Admira Wacker 2

BELGIUM Midweek

Cup — Final
Antwerp 2, Mechelen 2
(Antwerp won 9-8 on pens)

GREECE Weekend

Olympiakos 1, Panathinaikos 1
PAOK 2, AEK Athenes 2
Heraklis 1, OFI Crete 0
Larissa 4, Panionios 0
Apollon 2, Aris Salonika 0
Panserraikos 2, Ethnikos 2
Panachaiki 2, Korinthos 0
Pierikos 1, Doxa Drama 0
Athinaikos 1, Xanthi 2

SPAIN Weekend

Valencia 1 (Leonardo 67), **Logrones 1** (Poyatos 27). **Att:** 24,000.
Real Sociedad 1 (Kodro 35), **Espanol 1** (Moroz 61). **Att:** 19,000.
Zaragoza 1 (Aguado 46), **Majorca 2** (Sergi 34, Pinilla 73). **Att:** 35,000.
Oviedo 3 (Vinals 17, Sarriugarte 22, 73), **Burgos 1** (Balint 30). **Att:** 10,160.
Atletico Madrid 4 (Alfaro 32, Manolo 60, 75, Schuster 87), **Albacete 1** (Chesa 63). **Att:** 20,000.
Osasuna 0, La Coruna 1 (Kiriakov 18). **Att:** 10,000.
Tenerife 3 (Estebarranz 35, Pizzi 76, Pier 77), **Real Madrid 2** (Hierro 8, Hagi 30). **Att:** 28,000.
Cadiz 1 (Tilico 45), **Sporting Gijon 1** (Monchu 58). **Att:** 17,000.
Valladolid 1 (Fonseca 63), **Seville 0. Att:** 12,000.
Barcelona 2 (Stoichkov 36, 52), **Athletic Bilbao 0. Att:** 90,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, 14 JUNE

SPAIN Weekend

Cup — semi-finals, Ist Leg
Sporting Gijon 1 (Iordanov 10), **Real Madrid 2** (Butragueno 22, Michel 27). **Att:** 12,000.
Atletico Madrid 2 (Manolo 49, Schuster 68), **La Coruna 0. Att:** 16,000.

SWITZERLAND Midweek

Cup — final
Lucerne 3, Lugano 1

INTERNATIONAL RESULTS

TUESDAY, MAY 19

May 19 = Salzburg — intl friendly
Austria 2 (Hasenhuttl 20, Waldhoer 68)
Poland 4 (Kosecki 10, 32, K Warzycha 59, Kowalczyk 64)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 17,000. **Ref:** Marnic (Bel).
Austria: Wohlfahrt — Rotter, Schottel (Baur 46), Zsak — Prosenik, Stoger (Schinkels 66), Artner, Flogel, Kuhbauer — Hasenhuttl, Sabitzer (Waldhoer 66).
Poland: Wandzik — Adamczuk, Szewczyk, Czachowski, Lesiak — Kosecki (Wdowczyk 75), Brzeczek (Pisz 66), Robert Warzycha, Ziober — Krzystof Warzycha (Grzesik 89), Kowalczyk.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

May 20 = Bucharest — WC Euro gp 4
Romania 5 (Hagi 5, 35, Lupescu 7, 24, Balint 31)
Wales 1 (Rush 50)
HT: 5-0. **Att:** 23,000. **Ref:** Baldas (Ita).
Romania: Stelea — Petrescu, Mihali, Belodedici, Munteanu — Sabau (Ioan Timofte 80), Popescu, Lupescu, Hagi (Gerstenmaier 71) — Lacatus, Balint.
Wales: Southall — Phillips, Bowen (Blackmore 77), Aizlewood, Melville, Horne, Speed, Pembridge (Giggs 59), Hughes, Rush, Saunders.

May 20 = Toronto — intl friendly
Canada 1 (Catliff 43)
Scotland 3 (McAllister 23, McCoist 68, Malpas 88)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 10,872. **Ref:** Dias (US).
Canada: Forrest — Yallop, Miller, Sarantopoulos, Samuel, Dasovic, Valentine, Limniatis (Gilbert 59), Catliff (Aunger 78), Mobilia (Bunbury 46), Odinga (Hooper 59).
Scotland: Smith — Gough, McPherson, McLaren, Boyd, McStay, McCall (McKimmie 89), McAlister, McCoist, Ferguson (McClair 55), Durie (Malpas 78).

SATURDAY, MAY 23

May 23 = Kingston — WC CONCACAF qual
Jamaica 2 (Ricardo Hyde 57, Linval Wilson 67)
Puerto Rico 1 (Milton Espinosa 3)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 6,000.

SUNDAY, MAY 24

May 24 = Guatemala City — intl friendly
Guatemala 1 (Westphal 31)
Ecuador 1 (Hurtado 43)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Burgos (Gua).
Guatemala: Chuga — Vasquez (Leon), Batres, Acevedo (Luna), Machon — Ceballos, Perez, Espel (R Mendez), Castaneda — Martinez, Westphal.
Ecuador: Espinoza — Coronel, Capurro, I Hurtado, Guerrero — Caravelli, Corcelle, J-C Garay (O de la Cruz), Fernandez, E Hurtado (Guerrero), Chavala.

MONDAY, MAY 25

May 25 = Paramaribo — WC CONCACAF qual
Surinam 1 (Godlieb 2)
Guyana 1 (Archer 48)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 5,000.
Surinam 2-1 on agg

May 25 = Port-au-Prince — WC CONCACAF qual
Haiti 2 (Eliezar 24, 34)
Bermuda 1 (Shawn Goater 20)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 6,000.
Bermuda on away goals rule: 2-2 agg

TUESDAY, MAY 26

May 26 = Dublin/Lansdowne Road — WC Euro gp 3
Rep Ireland 2 (Aldridge 60, McGrath 80)
Albania 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 29,727. **Ref:** Uilenberg (Hol).
Rep Ireland: Bonner — Irwin, Staunton, O'Leary, McGrath, Townsend, Keane, Houghton, Quinn, Aldridge (Coyne 83), Sheedy (McCarthy 52).
Albania: Dani — Zmijani, Qendro (Pali 71), Pegini, Vata, Abazi, Kushta, Vasi, Rrakilli, Zela (Sokoli 80), Demollari.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

May 27 = San Jose — intl friendly
Costa Rica 2 (L Arnaez 38, M Montero 44 pen)
Ecuador 1 (H Caravalli 89)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 1,250. **Ref:** R L Mendez (CR).
C Rica: P Mayorga — V Quesada (R Fomseca 46), M Montero, Jimenez, Chacon — Davis, L-D Arnaez (R Gonzalez 65), O Ramirez (E Diaz 46), A Berry — J Astua (Ilama 80), J-M Rodriguez (E Coronado 46).
Ecuador: J Espinoza — Coronel, Montano (Mantilla 39), Capurro, I Hurtado — Guerrero, Caravelli, Carcelon, Angel Fernandez — E Hurtado, Chavala.

May 27 = Sittard — intl friendly
Holland 3 (Rijkaard 22, Bergkamp 28, Gullit 85)
Austria 2 (Polster 30, Schinkels 89)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 16,000. **Ref:** Larsson (Swe).
Holland: Van Breukelen — Van Aerle, Van Tiggelen, Wouters (Jonk 75), R Koeman (Blind 46), Rijkaard (Winter 46), Rob Witschge, Gullit (Bosz 87), Van Basten (Kieft 46), Bergkamp (Van't Schip 46), Roy (De Boer 68).
Austria: Konsel (Knaller 54) — Herzog, Streiter (Posch 50; Flogel 69), Hartmann, Kuhbauer (Schinkels 80), Artner, Baur, Rotter, A Ogris, Zsak, Polster.

May 27 = Jastrzebie — intl friendly
Poland 1 (K Warzycha 23)
Czechoslovakia 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Puhl (Hun).
Poland: Wandzik (Bako 46) — Rzepka, Szewczyk, Czachowski, Lesiak — Gora (Wegrzyn 86), R Warzycha, Pisz, Kosecki — R Warzycha (Jegor 63), Kraus (Fedorczuk 46).
Czechoslovakia: Kouba (Vencel 46) — Suchoparek (Chvila 75), Glonek, Novotny — Nemecek, Hapal, Moravcik, Krzistofik (Marosi 46), Latal — Siegl (Szasko 63), Kuka (Dubovsky 74).

May 27 = Stockholm — intl friendly
Sweden 2 (Stefan Schwarz 31, 40)
Hungary 1 (Gabor Marton 64)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 8,169. **Ref:** Natri (Fin).
Sweden: Ravelli — Roland Nilsson, Jan Eriksson, Patrick Andersson, Bjorklund — Ingesson (Joakim Nilsson 46), Thern, Schwarz, Limpar (Dahlin 68) — Brolin, Kennet Andersson.
Hungary: Brockhauser — Simon, Telek, Keller (Marton 46), Lorincz — Ervin Kovacs, Tibor Balog, Pisont (Eszenyi 55), Lipcsei (Zoltan Bognar 82) — Vincze, Kiprich.

May 27 = Lausanne — intl friendly
Switzerland 2 (Christophe Bonvin 28, 72)
France 1 (Fabrice Divert 20)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 22,000. **Ref:** Wieser (Aut).
Switzerland: Huber — Egli, Geiger (Herr 38), Hottiger, Studer (Ohrel 32), Bickel (Alain Sutter 71), Bonvin, Bregy, Chapuisat, Sforza, Beat Sutter (Knup 88).
France: Martini — Blanc, Casoni (Petit 46), Deschamps (Fernandez 46), Sauzee, Perez (Cocard 46), Boli (Silvestre 46), Durand, Divert, Cantona (Vahirua 46), Angloma.

SATURDAY, MAY 30

May 30 = Gelsenkirchen — intl friendly
Germany 1 (Voller 63)
Turkey 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 55,000. **Ref:** Georges Ramos (Fra).
Germany: Kopke — Worns (Effenberg 64), Kohler, Brehme, Binz, Buchwald, Moller, Hassler, Voller, Sammer, Klinsmann (Thom 55).
Turkey: Hayrettin — Bulent, Ogun, Tugay, Orhan, Riza, Unal (Aykut 83), Recep (Serhat 83), Mehmet (Oguz 63), Hakan, Hami.

May 30 = Utrecht — intl friendly
Holland 4 (Roy 16, Van Basten 37, Winter 74, Jonk 83)
Wales 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 18,000. **Ref:** Palsi (Fin).
Holland: Van Breukelen — Van Aerle, Blind, Van Tiggelen (De Boer 19), Rijkaard (Winter 46), Wouters (Bosz 66), Bergkamp (Jonk 66), Rob Witschge, Gullit (Van't Schip 46), Van Basten (Kieft 46), Roy.
Wales: Southall — Bodin (Phillips 55), Speed, Aizlewood, Melville, Symons, Horne, Pembridge (Bowen 63), Blackmore (Nogan 80), Saunders, Hughes.

May 30 = Tokyo — Kirin Cup
Japan 0
Argentina 1 (Batistuta 53)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 60,000.
Japan: Matsugana — Tsunami, Horiike, Katsuya, Ihara, Ramos, Kitazawa, Hashiratani, Moriyasu, Miura (Takagi 81), Nakayama (Takeda 81).
Argentina: Goycochea — Vazquez, Basualdo, Ruggeri, Craviotto, Franco, Villareal, Rodriguez (Astrada 82), Cagna, Caniggia, Batistuta (Acosta 89).

May 30 = Washington/RFK Stadium — US Cup '92
United States 3 (Perez 54, Balboa 70, Harkes 87)
Rep Ireland 1 (McCarthy 51)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 35,696. **Ref:** Seiffert (Can).
US: Meola — Balboa, Doyle, Dooley, Caligiuri, Quinn, Harkes, Ramos (Michallik 79), Murray (Wegerle 46), Perez (Stewart 53), Vermes (Henderson 46; Clavijo 59).
Rep Ireland: Peyton — Morris (Irwin 78), Moran, McCarthy, Phelan, Houghton, Keane (McLoughlin 78), McGrath, Townsend, Staunton (Coyne 60), Quinn.

SUNDAY, MAY 31

May 31 = New Haven/Yale Bowl — US Cup '92
Italy 0
Portugal 0
Att: 38,833. **Ref:** Dominguez (US).
Italy: Zenga — Mannini, Maldini, Fusi (Galia 78), Baresi, Costacurta, Baggio (Casiraghi 71), Bianchi (Signori 85), *Donadoni, Vialli, Di Chiara (Lombardo 35).
**Donadoni sent off, 84min.*

Portugal: Vitor Baia — Couto (Samuel 39), Paulo Madeira, *Leal, Joao Pinto I, Figo (Filipe 57), Rui Filipe, Peixe (Domingos 85), Vitor Paneira (Jaime Magalhaes 46), Cadete (Semedo 86), Joao Pinto II.
*Leal sent off, 56min.

TUESDAY, JUNE 2

Jun 2 = Bremen — intl friendly
Germany 1 (Binz 40)
Northern Ireland 1 (M Hughes 22)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 24,000. **Ref:** Constantin (Bel).
Germany: Illgner — Binz, Kohler, Buchwald, Reuter, Effenberg, Hassler (Doll 45), Sammer (Thom 75), Brehme, Voller, Riedle.
N Ireland: Wright — Donaghy, McDonald, Taggart, Worthington, Fleming, Hughes, Magilton, K Wilson, Clarke (Michael O'Neill 57), Black (Morrow 79).

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

Jun 3 = Tirana — WC Euro gp 3
Albania 1 (Abazi 77)
Lithuania 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Streng.
Albania: Dani — Zmijani, Peqini, Lekbello, Vata, Abazi, Kushta, Milori (Rrafii 46), Millo (Fprtuzi 89), Vasi, Demollari.
Lithuania: Martinkenas — Buzmakovas, Sukristovas, Mazeikis, Tomas, Danisevicus, Baranauskas Stasys, Tautkus (Zuta 82), Urbonas, Ramelis (Zadancius 52), Kvitkauskas.

Jun 3 = Gifu, Japan — Kirin Cup
Argentina 1 (Batistuta 88)
Wales 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 31,000.
Argentina: Islas — Vazquez, Fabian Basualdo, Ruggeri, Altamirano, Franco, Villareal, Rodriguez, Cagna, Caniggia, Batistuta.
Wales: Southall — Phillips, Bodin, Aizlewood, Symons, Blackmore, Horne, Speed, Roberts, Saunders, Hughes.

Jun 3 = Brondby — intl friendly
Denmark 1 (Bent Christensen 34)
CIS 1 (Kolivanov 51)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 5,339. **Ref:** Waddell (Sco).
Denmark: Schmeichel — Sivebaek, K Nielsen (Piechnik 65), L Olsen, Andersen, Christofte (H Larsen 68), Jensen, Povlsen (Johnny Molby 46), B Laudrup (T Frank 73), Bent Christensen, Vilfort.
CIS: Cherchesov (Kharin 46) — Tchadadze (Ivanov 41), Tsveiba, O Kuznetsov, Shalimov, Mikhailichenko, Kanchelskis, Aleinikov (Lediakhov 59), Dobrovolski, Kiriakov (D Kuznetsov 46), Kolivanov (Liuti 65).

Jun 3 = Toftir — WC Euro gp 4
Faroe Islands 0
Belgium 3 (Albert 30, Wilmots 65, 71)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 5,156. **Ref:** Mottram (Eng).
Faroes: Johannesen — Joannes Jakobsen, T E Hansen, Danielsen, Todi Jonsson (Jensen 71), A Morkore (Justinussen 83), Torkil Nielsen, Dam, A Hansen, Reynheim, J A Muller.
Belgium: Preud'homme — Staelens, Grun, Albert, Emmers, Boffin (B Versavel 75), F Van der Elst, Denil, Degryse, Scifo, Oliveira (Wilmots 63).
● This was the first competitive match played on the Faroes' new turf pitch.

Jun 3 = Helsinki — intl friendly
Finland 1 (Hjelm 27 pen)
England 2 (Platt 44, 62)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 13,500. **Ref:** Karlsson (Swe).
Finland: Huttunen — Petaja — Holmgren (Heikkinen 46), Kinnunen — Rinne (Vanhala 79), Litmanen, Myyry, Hjelm, Jarvinen — Tarkkio (Tegelberg 68), Huhtamaki.
England: Woods — Stevens (Palmer 46), Keown, Wright, Walker, Pearce — Steven (Daley 83), Platt, Webb — Lineker, Barnes (Merson 17).

Jun 3 = Oslo — intl friendly
Norway 0
Scotland 0
Att: 8,000. **Ref:** Frisk (Swe).
Norway: Grodas — Berg, Bratseth, Nilsen — [illegible] Pedersen (Mykland 29), Bohinen [illegible] (Rekdal, Leonhardsen, [illegible] — Dahlum (Flo 73), Strandli.
Scotland: Goram — Gough, McPherson, [illegible] Wadde, McKimmie 64), McAllister McGrath 73, McStay, McCall, Boyd, McClair (Gallacher 46, McCoist (Dunn 46).

Jun 3 = Budapest — WC Euro gp 5
Hungary 1 (Munich 3)
Iceland 1 (Thorvaldsson 51, Magnusson 73)
[illegible] **Att:** [illegible] **Ref:** Amendola (Ita).
Hungary: [illegible] — [illegible] E Kovacs, Lorincz, Sinor, Lipcsei, Pisont, Tibor Salog 73, [illegible] Escsery 54, Keller, Korsch, A Kovacs.
Iceland: Einar Kristjansson — Sigurdur Gretarsson, Magnusson 54, Bergsson, Thorgeirsson, Runar Kristjansson, Amar Gretarsson, Karason, Kristjan Jonsson, Kristinn Jonsson, Bragason 80, Saevar Gudmundsson, Marteinsson.

Jun 3 = Chicago/Soldier Field — US Cup '92
United States 1 (Wegerle 35)
Portugal 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,422.
US: Meola — Balboa, Dooley, Doyle, Caligiuri (Caviglia 51), B Quinn, Ramos, Murray (Henderson 46), Harkes (Michallik 78), Perez (Stewart 68), Wegerle.
Portugal: Barros — Couto, Torres (Filipe 34), Madeira, Pinto, Joao Pinto I, Semedo, Magalhaes (Cadete 46), Figo (Sousa 81), Peixe, Pinto, Joao Pinto II (Paneira 46), Domingos (Jorge Couto 77).

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

Jun 4 = Foxboro, Mass — US Cup '92
Rep Ireland 0
Italy 2 (Signori 17, Costacurta 56 pen)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 34,797. **Ref:** D'Aquila (US).
Rep Ireland: *Bonner — Staunton, O'Leary, McCarthy (McLoughlin 46), Irwin (Peyton 66), Houghton, Townsend, McGrath, McGoldrick (Phelan 80), Quinn (Coyne 72), Aldridge (Kelly 78).
**Bonner sent off, 64min.*
Italy: Zenga — Baresi (Ferri 77), Maldini, Costacurta, Bianchi (Lombardo 73), Galia, Fusi (Venturin 46), Carboni (Mannini 51), Signori, Mancini (Vialli 80), Casiraghi.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

Jun 5 = Lens — Intl friendly
France 1 (Papin 12)
Holland 1 (Roy 18)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 35,000.
France: Martini — Casoni, Blanc, Boli, Petit (Amoros 46), Angloma (Fernandez 61), Sauzee (Durand 61), Deschamps, Vahirua (Perez 64), Papin (Divert 61), Cantona.
Holland: Van Breukelen — Van Aerle, R Koeman, Van Tiggelen, Winter, Wouters (Blind 77), Bergkamp (Viscaal 74), Rob Witschge, Van't Schip, Van Basten, Roy (Jonk 85).

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

Jun 6 = Chicago/Soldier Field — US Cup '92
United States 1 (Harkes 23)
Italy 1 (Baggio 2)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 26,874.
US: Meola — Balboa, Dooley, Doyle, Caligiuri, Quinn, Ramos (Michallik 86), Murray (Clavijo 46), Harkes, Peters (Stewart 75), Wegerle.
Italy: Marchegiani — Baresi, Maldini, Mannini, Galia (DiChiara 65), Bianchi, Ferri (Fusi 46), Donadoni, Signori, Casiraghi, Baggio (Vialli 74).
● United States win the US Cup '92 tournament with one game remaining.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

Jun 7 = Foxboro, Mass — US Cup '92
Portugal 0
Rep Ireland 2 (Staunton 39, Coyne 89)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 41,227. **Ref:** Dias (US).
Portugal: Vitor Baia — Leal (Magalhaes 71), Jorge Couto (Joao Pinto II 46), Samuel, Fernando Couto, Joao Pinto I, Semedo (Paulo Sousa 75), Rui Filipe, Vitor Paneira (Filipe 46), Figo (Domingos 46), Cadete.
Rep Ireland: Peyton — Staunton, McCarthy, O'Leary, Morris, Houghton, McLoughlin, McGrath, Phelan (McGoldrick 89), Kelly (Coyne 58), Quinn (Aldridge 87).

Jun 7 = Matsuyama — Kirin Cup
Japan 0
Wales 1 (Bowen 40)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Chang (Jap).
Japan: Maikawa — Meura, Katuya, Horiike, Ahashiratani, Tsunami (Yoshide 60), Ihara, Takeda (Takegi 74), Hirekawi, Moriyasu, Kitazawa.
Wales: Southall — Phillips, Aizlewood (Melville 68), Blackmore, Symons, Bowen, Speed, Horne, Hughes, Saunders (Pembridge 80), *I Roberts.
**I Roberts sent off, 60min.*

Jun 7 = Christchurch — WC Oceania qual
New Zealand 3
Fiji 0
Att: 12,000.

OTHER MATCHES

May 3 ***(in Seoul):*** **S Korea Oly 2** (Shin Tae-young 20, Roh Jung-yoon 52), **Australia Oly 1** (Seal 50).
May 12 ***(in Vac):*** **Hungary U-21 2** (Hamori 46, Horvath 67), **England U-21 2** (Allen 22, Cole 20).
May 19: Milan 0, Brazil 1 (Careca 57).
May 27: Fiorentina 2 (Maiellaro 68, De Pergola 84), **Yugoslavia 1** (Jokanovic 60).
Att: 1,500.
June 3 ***(in Christchurch):*** **New Zealand 1** (Ironside 71), **Werder Bremen 1** (Bode 22).

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP
May 28 = Ferrara — Final, first leg
Italy 2 (Buso 71, Sordo 80)
Sweden 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 18,000. **Ref:** Van der Elde (Hol).
Italy: Antonioli — Bonomi, Favalli (Rossini 46), Dino Baggio, Matrecano, Rufo Verga, Marcolin, Corini, Buso, Sordo, Melli (Muzzi 71).
Sweden: Hakan Svensson — Magnus Johansson, Lilius, Apelstav, Alexandersson, Hakan Mild, Langberg, Moberg, Paldan (Simpson 76), Rodlund, Gudmunsson (Jensson 76).

Jun 3 = Vaxjo — Final, 2nd leg
Sweden 1 (Simpson 46)
Italy 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** McGinlay (Sco).
Italy 2-1 on agg
Sweden: Ekolm — Nilsson, Lilius, Apelstav, Alexandersson, Mild, Landberg (Axeldahl 77), Moberg, Gudmunsson (Paldan 53), Rodlund, Simpson.
Italy: Antonioli — Bonomi, Rossini, Matrecano, Taccola, Favalli, Melli (Muzzi 59), Albertini, Buso, Corini, Marcolin (Sordo 89).

MITROPA CUP

Semi-finals: Foggia 2, Borac Banja Luka 2 *(Borac 4-2 on pens)*; Vasukas Budapest 0, Dunajska Streda 0 *(Vasukas 6-5 on pens)*.
Final: Vasukas v Borac.

SOUTH AMERICAN RESULTS AND TABLES

LIBERTADORES CUP
QUARTER-FINALS

First Leg

13.05.92	Newell's v San Lorenzo	4-0
13.05.92	At. Nacional v America	0-1
13.05.92	Barcelona v Cerro Porteno	1-1
13.05.92	Sao Paulo v Criciuma	1-0

Second Leg

20.05.92	San Lorenzo v Newell's	1-1
	Newell's won 5-1 on agg	
20.05.92	Criciuma v Sao Paulo	1-1
	Sao Paulo won 2-1 on agg	
20.05.92	America v At. Nacional	4-2
	America won 5-2 on agg	
20.05:92	Cerro Porteno v Barcelona	1-1
	Barcelona won 4-3 on pens. Agg: 2-2	

SEMI-FINALS

First Leg

27.05.92	Newell's v America	1-1
27.05.92	Sao Paulo v Barcelona	3-0

Second Leg

03.06.92	America v Newell's	1-1
	Newell's won 11-10 on pens. Agg: 2-2	
03.06.92	Barcelona v Sao Paulo	2-0
	Sao Paulo won 3-2 on agg	

FINAL

First Leg

10.06.92	Newell's v Sao Paulo	1-0

Second Leg

17.06.92	Sao Paulo v Newell's	1-0
	Sao Paulo won 3-2 on pens. Agg: 1-1	

ARGENTINA
National A Division ***(2nd round)***

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newell's OB	13	8	5	0	20	6	21
Boca Juniors	13	8	3	2	15	9	19
Velez	13	6	6	1	21	12	18
Platense	13	7	3	3	20	9	17
River Plate	13	5	7	1	22	18	17
Dep. Espanol	13	4	8	1	15	10	16
Belgrano	13	5	4	4	16	13	14
Independiente	13	4	6	3	14	11	14
FC Oeste	13	4	5	4	12	11	13
Gimnasia	13	4	5	4	18	15	13
Rosario Central	13	6	1	6	15	17	13
Racing Club	13	3	7	3	9	8	13
Huracan	13	3	6	4	9	12	12
Union Santa Fe	13	1	8	4	7	10	10
Estudiantes	13	1	7	5	12	20	9
Talleres	13	2	6	5	8	21	10
Argentinos Jun.	13	2	4	7	12	15	8
Quilmes	13	3	2	8	10	21	8
Dep Mandiyu	13	1	6	6	8	22	8
San Lorenzo	13	2	3	8	8	19	7

Bottom relegation averages ***(average points obtained over last three seasons — two go down):*** Estudiantes 0,907; Talleres 0,878; Dep. Espanol 0,861; Union 0,851; Quilmes (already relegated) 0,562.

VENEZUELA
First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Minerven	28	14	12	2	38	13	40
Caracas FC	28	15	9	4	52	24	39
Tachira	28	14	8	6	42	20	36
Maritimo	27	11	13	2	41	18	35
Trujillanos	28	14	6	8	39	26	34
U. de los Andes	27	13	7	7	37	25	33
Mineros Guyana	28	12	9	7	40	30	33
Anzoategui	28	9	11	8	38	31	29
Monagas	28	10	8	10	30	31	28
Zamora	28	8	9	11	29	30	25
Lara	28	9	7	12	30	33	25
Portuguesa	28	8	8	12	28	37	24
Italia	28	7	7	14	27	43	21
Estudiantes	28	4	10	14	25	41	18
Industriales	28	5	7	16	21	57	17
Salineros	28	1	7	20	20	77	9

ECUADOR
First Division: 1) Emelec 16 pts; 2) Barcelona 15; 3) Liga Dep. Universitaria 13; 4) Deportivo Cuenca 12; 5) Aucas, Valdez 11; 7) Nacional, Deportivo Quito 10; 9) Universidad Catolica 9; 10) Green Cross 8; 11) Delfin 7; 12) Tecnico Universitario 4.

COLOMBIA
Opening Championship
Group A: 1) Dep. Cali 19pts; 2) Nacional 14; 3) Envigado 13; 4) Millonarios, At. Junior 12; 6) Cucuta 10; 7) Tolima, Pereira 8.
Group B: 1) Once Philips (Caldas), Bucaramanga 15; 3) Union Magdalena 14; 4) Independiente Santa Fe 13; 5) America 11; 6) Independente Medellin, Quindio 10; 8) Real Cartagena 8.

PERU
National First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
U. Cajamarca	6	4	1	1	7	4	9
Universitario	6	4	0	2	10	4	8
Sporting Cristal	6	3	2	1	7	4	8
C.N. Iquitos	6	3	2	1	7	5	8
Leon de Huanuco	6	2	3	1	8	3	7
Cienciano	6	3	1	2	8	9	7
Sport Boys	6	2	2	2	8	7	6
Defensor Lima	6	2	2	2	10	10	6
Carlos Mannucci	6	2	2	2	3	3	6
Melgar	6	1	3	2	6	6	5
Dep. Yurimaguas	6	1	3	2	8	5	5
San Agustin	6	1	3	2	7	8	5
Dep. Municipal	6	1	3	2	9	12	5
Union Minas	6	1	2	3	9	13	4
Alianza Atletico	6	2	0	4	7	12	4
Alianza Lima	6	0	3	3	1	4	3

URUGUAY
First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nacional	6	5	1	0	15	7	11
Danubio	6	4	2	0	10	2	10
Penarol	6	4	1	1	9	3	9
River Plate	7	3	2	2	11	8	8
Wanderers	7	3	2	2	5	4	8
Racing Club	7	1	5	1	5	3	7
Rentistas	6	3	0	3	7	11	6
Defensor	6	1	3	2	2	3	5
Liverpool	6	1	3	2	4	10	5
Bella Vista	7	2	1	4	6	8	5
Progreso	7	1	3	3	8	13	5
Cerro	7	1	2	4	7	9	4
Espanol	6	0	1	5	1	7	1

BOLIVIA
National Championship
1) The Strongest 17 pts; 2) San Jose 15; 3) Ciclon, Jorge Wilsterman, Petrolero, Bolivar, Universitario 10; 8) Litoral, Independiente 9; 10) Destroyers, Orcobol, Oriente Petrolero, Real Beni 8; 14) Chaco 4; 15) Real Santa Cruz 3.

MEXICO
First Division — final
(top two of each group qualify for quarter-finals)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Group 1							
UNAM	38	15	14	9	52	40	44
Veracruz	38	16	8	14	53	44	40
Atlas	38	9	17	12	37	38	35
UA Guadalajara	38	8	13	17	35	47	29
Cobras	38	5	10	23	33	60	20
Group 2							
Guadalajara	38	13	19	6	41	30	45
Puebla	38	13	15	10	44	42	41
Univ. Tamaulipas	38	14	12	12	47	43	40
Monterrey	38	12	13	13	41	48	37
Queretaro	38	9	13	16	37	50	31
Group 3							
Necaxa	38	16	14	8	67	46	46
Leon	38	15	15	8	47	38	45
Cruz Azul	38	15	14	9	60	52	44
Toluca	38	13	12	13	47	49	38
Santos	38	12	10	16	42	52	34
Group 4							
Atlante	38	19	12	7	65	47	50
America	38	13	14	11	46	45	40
UN Leon	38	14	11	13	53	51	39
Morelia	38	10	15	13	41	48	35
Univ. Guadalajara	38	8	11	19	42	60	27

(Top two in each group and two best third-placed teams in final play-offs.)

INTERNATIONAL TABLES

FAROE ISLES — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ki KLAKKSVIK	18	10	4	4	31	19	24
B36 Thorshavn	18	10	4	4	37	28	24
GI Gotu	18	10	3	5	38	27	23
VB Vagur	18	10	3	5	29	19	23
TB Tvoroyri	18	9	2	7	29	22	20
HB Thorshavn	18	7	4	7	37	29	18
B68 Toftir	18	4	8	6	17	21	16
NSI Runavik	18	6	3	9	18	25	15
MB Midvagur	18	4	4	10	14	28	12
Sumba	18	2	1	15	19	51	5

AUSTRIA — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AUSTRIA WIEN	14	7	2	5	73	36	33
Austria Salzburg	14	7	2	5	62	37	33
FC Tirol	14	9	0	5	69	49	33
Admira Wacker	14	7	2	5	57	42	30
Rapid Wien	14	6	2	6	58	40	28
Stahl Linz	14	4	3	7	47	45	25
Vorwarts Steyr	14	5	2	7	44	53	21
St Polten	14	3	3	8	41	54	18

SLOVENIA — FINAL LEADERS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OLIMPIJA	38	28	6	4	96	18	62
Maribor	38	24	9	5	75	29	57
Belvedur	39	22	12	5	62	22	56
Zivila	38	14	17	7	47	36	45
Gorica	38	14	15	9	59	37	43

DENMARK — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
LYNGBY	14	9	2	3	22	7	32
B1903	14	8	2	4	23	11	29
Frem	14	6	5	3	20	12	26
AGF	14	4	5	5	16	19	23
AaB	14	4	5	5	16	19	23
Brondby	14	4	2	8	16	24	22
Silkeborg	14	2	3	9	13	33	15

GREECE — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AEK	34	23	8	3	72	25	54
Olympiakos	34	20	11	3	74	30	51
Panathinaikos	34	21	6	7	66	21	48
PAOK	34	13	13	8	44	44	39
Apollon	34	14	7	13	35	34	35
OFI Crete	34	11	12	11	35	30	34
Iraklis	34	10	11	13	42	40	31
Larissa	34	11	9	14	40	46	31
Korinthos	34	12	7	15	36	46	31
Aris Salonika	34	12	7	15	26	40	31
Pierikos	34	11	8	15	41	56	30
Athinaikos	34	10	10	14	35	40	30
Panachaiki	34	12	5	17	42	56	29
Doxa Drama	34	9	11	14	39	37	29
Xanthi	34	13	3	18	37	47	29
Panionios	34	9	11	14	32	52	29
Panserraikos	34	9	8	17	29	59	26
Ethnikos	34	7	11	16	30	48	25

SPAIN — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BARCELONA	38	23	9	6	87	37	55
Real Madrid	38	23	8	7	78	32	54
Atletico Madrid	38	24	5	9	67	35	53
Valencia	38	20	7	11	63	42	47
Real Sociedad	38	16	12	10	44	38	44
Zaragoza	38	17	7	14	40	41	41
Albacete	38	16	8	14	45	47	40
Gijon	38	15	8	15	37	43	38
Burgos	38	12	13	13	40	43	37
Oviedo	38	14	8	16	41	46	36
Logrones	38	13	10	15	36	51	36
Seville	38	13	8	17	48	45	34
Tenerife	38	12	10	16	46	50	34
Osasuna	38	10	13	15	30	40	33
Athletic Bilbao	38	13	7	18	38	58	33
Espanol	38	12	8	18	43	60	32
La Coruna	38	8	15	15	37	48	31
Cadiz	38	7	14	17	32	55	28
Mallorca	38	10	7	21	30	49	27
Valladolid	38	7	13	18	31	53	27

ICELAND — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
VIKINGUR	18	12	1	5	36	21	37
Fram	18	11	4	3	29	15	37
KR	18	8	4	6	34	18	28
Valur	18	8	2	8	30	24	26
UBK	18	7	5	6	26	37	26
KA	18	7	4	7	21	23	25
IBV	18	7	3	8	28	36	24
FH	18	6	4	8	26	32	22
Stjarnen	18	4	6	8	23	27	18
Vidir	18	2	3	13	17	47	9

ALBANIA — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
VLLAZNIA	29	19	6	4	60	18	44
Partizani	30	14	10	6	41	25	38
Teuta	30	12	9	9	30	20	33
Besa	30	13	7	10	42	36	33
Dinamo Tirana	29	9	13	7	31	20	31
Apolonia	30	11	8	11	32	34	30
Lushnia	29	8	13	8	22	24	29
Elbasani	30	10	8	12	28	29	28
Laci	30	8	12	10	22	27	28
SK Tirana	28	11	5	12	37	30	27
Flamurtari	29	12	9	8	35	30	27
Selenica	30	10	6	14	34	56	26
Kastrioti	29	10	5	14	34	53	25
Tomori	29	7	12	10	32	32	24
Pogradeci	29	6	12	11	27	39	24
Skenderbeu	29	4	7	18	16	50	15

CYPRUS — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
APOEL	26	18	6	2	67	25	60
Anorthosis	26	18	4	4	55	23	58
Apollon	26	16	5	5	53	26	53
Omonia	26	14	7	5	45	28	49
Salamina	26	11	5	10	45	47	38
Pezoporikos	26	10	7	9	37	40	37
AEL	26	10	6	10	37	40	36
EPA	26	8	7	11	37	39	30
Paralimni	26	7	9	10	36	37	30
Aris	26	7	8	12	29	43	29
Evagoras	26	7	6	13	24	37	27
Olympiakos	26	7	5	14	26	42	26
Aiki	26	4	6	16	23	45	18
Aradipou	26	1	7	18	17	43	10

SWITZERLAND — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SION	14	7	5	2	23	16	33
Xamax Neuchatel	14	7	5	2	27	16	31
Grasshoppers	14	6	3	5	18	15	30
Young Boys	14	7	3	4	24	16	28
Servette	14	4	5	5	24	22	27
Lausanne	14	2	4	8	11	22	23
FC Zurich	14	3	6	5	17	27	22
St Gall	14	3	3	8	18	28	20

FINLAND — FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
KUUSYSI LAHTI	33	16	11	6	56	35	59
MP Mikkeli	33	16	9	8	68	38	57
Haka Valkeakoski	33	16	6	11	59	37	54
Helsinki JK	33	15	7	11	55	38	52
Jaro Pietarsaari	33	14	11	8	45	32	52
Ilves Tampere	33	13	12	8	51	39	51
Rops	33	14	8	11	63	51	50
PPT Pori	33	11	10	12	52	44	43
TPS Turku	33	11	10	12	47	56	43
KUPS Kuopio	33	7	11	15	35	53	37
OTP Oulu	33	7	11	15	33	53	31
Reipas Lahti	33	2	2	29	17	117	8

City for sale

CARDIFF CITY have been put up for sale at £2 million by their financial controller, Rick Wright.

This comes 14 months after Wright, a holiday camp tycoon, stepped in to save the club from liquidation, clearing nearly £1.5m in debts. His agreement then was to stay in charge for two years and then leave — whatever the club's financial position.

"If the people of South Wales don't come forward to save their own club, then I'm not going to do it" he says. "I'll liquidate Cardiff and sell the players."

Wright is said to have been behind the application for League of Wales membership for Cardiff, intending to run a team in that competition and the Football League. This fell foul of current Barclays League rules regarding the fielding of the strongest side possible in each match.

He also was the force behind the application by the as yet unformed Majestic FC — named after his Barry Island holiday complex. All seems well with the 20 invited to join the new League of Wales. Most are making the required plans for close-season ground improvement schemes with grant aid — primarily for floodlighting — from a £250,000 FAW cash pool.

Caersws FC, champions of the Manweb Cymru Alliance, already have raised over £100,000 for ground improvements as they step up to the new league.

Interest has been heightened by the news that UEFA will admit the champions and runners-up of the new League into the European Champions' Cup and UEFA Cup respectively, from the 1993-94 European season.

In a superb gesture, Wrexham have offered to help any qualifying club stage home legs until such time as League of Wales club grounds have improved sufficiently to stage such matches.

MEL AP IOR **THOMAS**

Restoring pride . . . Hughes' goal against Germany brought relief to Billy Bingham.

Old style Hughes

HEAVY criticism followed the disappointing World Cup opener against Lithuania, but Billy Bingham's Northern Ireland team restored some pride with a 1-1 draw against Germany in Bremen before the European Championship finals.

The 20-year-old Michael Hughes, of Manchester City, took his chance — one of the few created by the under-siege Irish — with a veteran's coolness, and keeper Tommy Wright of Newcastle withstood everything the Germans could throw at him until he was beaten by a deflection.

Wright had missed the 2-2 draw with Lithuania in Belfast through injury.

On the local front, Larne's highly-rated full-back, Trevor McMullan, was transferred to Cup-winners' Glenavon for £25,000 — a record fee for a defender in the Irish League.

Managerless Coleraine had reportedly been eyeing McMullan as a potential player-manager, but now the club must look elsewhere for someone to pull them out of the trough.

Newry Town, struggling financially, appointed a new manager — Terry Nicholson, who

McPherson deal raises a row

HEARTS fans were overjoyed when their team qualified unexpectedly for next term's UEFA Cup, but the mood soon was transformed to one of severe bitterness and resentment.

That followed the club's decision to sell their most valuable asset, international defender Dave McPherson, to Rangers for £1.35 million.

McPherson had joined Hearts from Rangers five years ago, when surplus to the requirements of the then Ibrox manager, Graeme Souness. The fee then was in the region of £350,000, and you do not need a degree in mathematics to calculate that Hearts have made a clear profit overall, as well as having five seasons of invaluable service from the player.

Club chairman Wallace Mercer says: "A profit of £1m isn't bad business."

But he has had intense difficulty in convincing followers that the loss of McPherson will be to the club's ultimate benefit, no matter who is bought with the money.

The automatic inference surrounding McPherson's move to Ibrox is that Ukrainian defender Oleg Kuznetsov will choose to advance his career elsewhere.

Unlike Alexei Mikhailichenko, CIS international Kuznetsov has had a variety of difficulties in his attempts to adapt to the style of the football player in Scotland, but there are indications that Rangers manager Walter Smith will persevere with him.

Perhaps he will join Mikhailichenko in midfield, where his undoubted abilities could be used to greater effect.

If McPherson's move provided the major pre-Sweden point of discussion in Scottish football, then Paul McStay's "non-transfer" did not rank far behind.

Tentative

Having confirmed that he intended leaving Celtic, McStay sparked off a concentrated degree of media speculation in relation to his ultimate destination, with Monaco, Sampdoria, Everton, Liverpool and Manchester United among the more prominent clubs credited with an interest.

But there was no stampede for his signature.

McStay's immediate future remains uncertain, leading to his tentative acknowledgement that he may yet be persuaded to change his mind and to don the green and white again next season. Nothing would please the success-starved Celtic fans more than to see McStay lead the team out at Parkhead, but even his presence is unlikely to be sufficient to close the gap on Rangers.

They have a monopoly on the Premier Division championship, and show no signs of being dislodged.

ALAN **FAIRLEY**

Talking point . . . Dave McPherson's £1.35 million move from Hearts back to his former club, Rangers, has provoked anger among Hearts' supporters who believe his departure will seriously weaken their side's chances at home and in European competition next season.

was sacked in controversial circumstances at Glenavon last autumn. He will be looking forward to the challenge, but his task will be far from easy with little or no money available to lure new players.

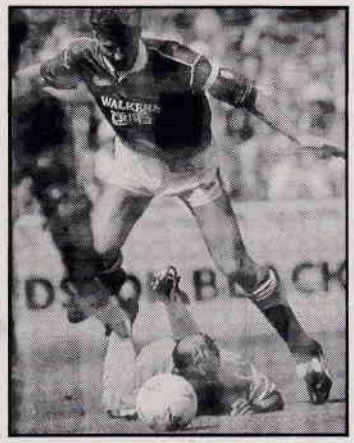
Champions Glentoran took the individual honours as well as the title.

Tommy Jackson was Manager of the Season, 29-year-old midfielder Raymond Morrison was Player of the Season, and Justin McBride, 21, his team's top League scorer with 15 goals, was Young Player of the Season.

Glentoran's eternal rivals, Linfield have signed winger Robert Campbell from Ards in an exchange deal, with central defender David Jeffrey, plus a cash sum, also involved.

ROY **KITSON**

Celebrating promotion . . . Blackburn's players enjoy their moment of success at Wembley.



Conceding a penalty . . . Leicester's captain, Steve Walsh, sends Blackburn striker, David Speedie, tumbling during the play-off final.

Walker's Rovers return

BLACKBURN ROVERS' £5.5m investment in new players paid off when Kenny Dalglish guided them through the play-off matches to claim the remaining place in next season's Premier League.

In the other play-off groups, Peterborough United earned promotion to what will be the Football League's First Division and Blackpool advanced to the new Second.

Blackburn's success in their Wembley final concluded domestic affairs for the season and brought relief to both Dalglish and the man who gave him the means to buy his way into the upper class.

Retired steel magnate Jack Walker promised his manager and Blackburn's fans the funds to continue strengthening the team after the priceless 1-0 victory over Leicester City.

Blackburn lost their handsome Second Division lead and all but lost a place in the play-offs as their game fell apart in the tense closing stages of the League season proper. In the country at large, there was scant sympathy for the free-spending club. It seemed Blackburn's luck had run out when they went two down in the home leg of their semi-final encounter with Derby County, another club who spent more than £5m on players in an attempt to join the elite. But David Speedie scored twice as the Lancashire side recovered to take a 4-2 advantage to the East Midlands.

Speedie, a player who rarely fails to stir the emotions, was a central character again in the second leg. He was attacked by at least two Derby supporters at the end of the match, but brushed off the incident. He and his colleagues had a 5-4 aggregate win and a place in the final.

Involved

The Scot was involved in more controversy and the decisive moments of the clash with Leicester, who booked their trip to Wembley by drawing 1-1 at Cambridge and then romping through the return leg 5-0.

Speedie tumbled to the ground as he was challenged by Leicester captain Steve Walsh and referee George Courtney, in the last match of his career, pointed to the spot.

Mike Newell converted the penalty and Blackburn's annual play-off campaign had at last reaped reward. They go up with Ipswich Town and Middlesbrough.

Dalglish, lured out of self-imposed exile by Blackburn after quitting as manager of Liverpool, said: "None of this would have been possible without Jack Walker. Those people who criticise him for spending his money on the club are just jealous."

Walker said: "It's been worth every penny. It's taken us 26 years to get back to the top flight. That's a lifetime. But now we're looking at Europe and there's more money where that came from if Kenny wants it. As a fan this is wonderful for me. I'm elated."

Peterborough are promoted with Brentford and Birmingham City after beating Stockport County 2-1 in their play-off final, while Blackpool scraped through on penalties after drawing 1-1 with Scunthorpe United and move up with Burnley, Rotherham United and Mansfield Town.

Stockport had a miserable end to their season, also losing at Wembley in the final of the Autoglass Trophy, 1-0 to Stoke City.

Lack of success left inevitable casualties, including Tottenham Hotspur's manager Peter Shreeves, who was sacked by the London club for the second time. Spurs were steered clear of relegation only by a late recovery and finished 15th in the First Division.

The absence of injured Lazio-bound midfield player Paul Gascoigne didn't help Shreeves' cause but he was perhaps fortunate Gary Lineker's last season in the English game provided a regular supply of goals.

Tottenham supremo Terry Venables decided to restructure the White Hart Lane management on Continental lines, handing coaching responsibility to Doug Livermore and former England goalkeeper Ray Clemence.

Norwich City also decided to keep their appointment in-house, naming coach Mike Walker as manager in succession to the deposed Dave Stringer.

Attendances in the last season of the Barclays League as we've known it were up for the sixth consecutive year and reached their highest level for ten years. A total of 20,493,233 people watched the 2,064 matches, an average attendance of 9,929.

First Division crowds averaged 21,622 (-4,796) but then that embraces Wimbledon's average of 6,905. They had only 3,121 for their match against Sheffield Wednesday.

Manchester United again topped the attendance charts, drawing an average 44,984 to Old Trafford. The biggest gate was 47,576, to see their match against Nottingham Forest.

The Government responded to pressure from the lower divisions and supporters' groups to announce a re-think on all-seater stadium policy.

It is now likely that only Premier League clubs and the majority of clubs in the new First Division will have to comply with this Taylor Report requirement.

Instead

Smaller First Division clubs and clubs in the new Second and Third Divisions will be allowed to retain sections of terracing for standing fans. Several clubs, confronted with huge bills for ground improvements, welcomed the change of heart as a lifeline.

The new-look League, defiantly declaring itself ready to meet the challenge of the Premier League, has made a major rule change in the hope of encouraging more adventurous play.

Goal-difference will no longer decide League positions between teams level on points. Instead the team scoring more goals will be placed higher.

The 71 members also approved the promotion to the new Third Division of the GM Vauxhall Conference champions, Colchester United, and the return of the Anglo-Italian Cup, involving eight clubs from the First Division and eight from Italy's Serie B.

DERICK **ALLSOP**

Proving a point . . . Walker (left) and Dalglish have taken Rovers back to the top.

DENMARK

BACK (L to R): Schmeichel, Olsen, Jensen, Sivebaek, Piechnik, Christofte.
FRONT (L to R): Povlsen, Laudrup, Kent Nielsen, Larsen, Vilfort.

GERMANY

BACK (L to R): Kohler, Illgner, Effenberg, Buchwald, Helmer, Reuter.
FRONT (L to R): Riedle, Klinsmann, Hassler, Brehme, Sammer.